

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

1st Session of the 60th Legislature (2025)

SENATE BILL 880

By: Grellner

AS INTRODUCED

An Act relating to the practice of alcohol and drug counseling; amending 59 O.S. 2021, Section 1873, as amended by Section 1, Chapter 88, O.S.L. 2023 (59 O.S. Supp. 2024, Section 1873), which relates to the Oklahoma Board of Licensed Alcohol and Drug Counselors; eliminating certain educational requirement; removing obsolete language; updating statutory language; and declaring an emergency.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 59 O.S. 2021, Section 1873, as amended by Section 1, Chapter 88, O.S.L. 2023 (59 O.S. Supp. 2024, Section 1873), is amended to read as follows:

Section 1873. A. There is hereby re-created, to continue until July 1, 2025, in accordance with the provisions of the Oklahoma Sunset Law, the Oklahoma Board of Licensed Alcohol and Drug Counselors, consisting of seven (7) members, to be appointed by the Governor, with the advice and consent of the Senate, as follows: ~~provided by subsection B of this section.~~

B. 1. a. ~~Six members who shall be alcohol and drug counselors certified by an entity recognized to do~~

1 professional alcohol and drug counseling certification
2 in this state; provided, however, five of such members
3 shall subsequently secure licensure and one such
4 member shall subsequently secure certification,
5 pursuant to the provisions of the Licensed Alcohol and
6 Drug Counselors Act, no later than January 1, 2005.

7 ~~b.~~ Thereafter, ~~five~~ Five members shall be licensed
8 alcohol and drug counselors at the time of
9 appointment, and one member shall be certified as an
10 alcohol and drug counselor at the time of appointment.

11 ~~e.~~ Pursuant to Each such member shall be licensed or
12 certified in good standing and shall have at least
13 three (3) years of experience in the practice of
14 alcohol and drug counseling in this state. Of the
15 members appointed under the provisions of this
16 paragraph, the Governor shall appoint:

17 ~~(1)~~ a. four members from a list of names submitted by the
18 Oklahoma Drug and Alcohol Professional ~~Counselors~~
19 Counselor Association,

20 ~~(2)~~ b. one member from a list of names submitted by the
21 ~~Oklahoma Substance Abuse Services Alliance~~ Oklahoma
22 Behavioral Health Association, and
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1 ~~2. Have at least three (3) years of experience in the practice~~
2 ~~of alcohol and drug counseling in this state.~~

3 ~~C. Two of the members initially appointed shall serve three-~~
4 ~~year terms; two shall serve four-year terms and three shall serve~~
5 ~~five-year terms, as designated by the Governor. Thereafter, the The~~
6 terms of all members shall be five (5) years.

7 D. A vacancy on the Board shall be filled in the same manner as
8 the original appointment for the balance of the unexpired term.
9 Members may succeed themselves but shall serve no more than two
10 consecutive terms. Each member shall serve until a successor is
11 appointed and qualified.

12 E. Members of the Board may be removed from office for one or
13 more of the following reasons:

14 1. The refusal or inability for any reason to perform the
15 duties of a Board member in an efficient, responsible and
16 professional manner;

17 2. The misuse of office for pecuniary or material gain or for
18 personal advantage for self or another;

19 3. A violation of the laws or rules governing the practice of
20 alcohol and drug counseling; or

21 4. Conviction of a felony as verified by a certified copy of
22 the record of the court of conviction.

1 F. Members of the Board shall serve without compensation, but
2 shall be reimbursed for actual and necessary travel expenses as
3 provided in the State Travel Reimbursement Act.

4 SECTION 2. It being immediately necessary for the preservation
5 of the public peace, health or safety, an emergency is hereby
6 declared to exist, by reason whereof this act shall take effect and
7 be in full force from and after its passage and approval.

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