

HOUSE No. 1904

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Danielle W. Gregoire

To the Honorable Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in General Court assembled:

The undersigned legislators and/or citizens respectfully petition for the adoption of the accompanying bill:

An Act relative to marriage and family therapists, rehabilitation counselors, mental health counselors, educational psychologists, applied behavior analysts; licenses; qualifications.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	DATE ADDED:
<i>Danielle W. Gregoire</i>	<i>4th Middlesex</i>	<i>1/17/2019</i>

HOUSE No. 1904

By Miss Gregoire of Marlborough, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 1904) of Danielle W. Gregoire relative to the issuance of licenses to applicants for marriage and family therapist, rehabilitation counselors and mental health counselors. Public Health.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the One Hundred and Ninety-First General Court
(2019-2020)

An Act relative to marriage and family therapists, rehabilitation counselors, mental health counselors, educational psychologists, applied behavior analysts; licenses; qualifications.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

1 Chapter 112 of the General Laws is hereby amended by striking Section 165 and
2 inserting in place thereof the following:-

3 Section 165. The board may issue a license to an applicant as a marriage and family
4 therapist, a rehabilitation counselor and a mental health counselor; provided, however, that each
5 such applicant shall provide satisfactory evidence to the board that such applicant: (1) is of good
6 moral character; (2) has not engaged or is not engaging in any practice or conduct which would
7 be grounds for refusing to issue a license under section one hundred and sixty-nine; (3)
8 demonstrates to the board, the successful completion of a masters degree in a relevant field from
9 an educational institution licensed by the state in which it is located and meets national standards
10 for granting of a masters degree with a subspecialization in marriage and family therapy,
11 rehabilitation counseling, counseling, or a relevant subspecialization approved by the board. To
12 be eligible for licensure, an applicant must have two additional years of supervised clinical

experience in the relevant field in either a clinic or hospital licensed by the department of mental health or accredited by the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Hospitals or in an equivalent center or institute or under the direction of a supervisor approved by the board. For purposes of this clause, "Supervision" shall be defined as no less than two hundred hours of supervised clinical experience, at least one hundred hours of which shall consist of individual supervision with a clinician who has expertise in marriage and family therapy, rehabilitation counseling, educational psychology, or counseling and who holds a masters degree in social work, marriage and family therapy, rehabilitation counseling, educational psychology, counseling or an equivalent field or holds a doctorate degree in psychology, or a medical degree with a subspecialization in psychiatry; (4) successfully passes a written or oral examination administered by the board to determine the applicant's qualifications for licensure for each profession licensed pursuant to this section; and (5) an individual licensed under the provisions of this section who also holds a valid license as a licensed certified social worker pursuant to the provisions of section one hundred and thirty-one or section three of chapter eight hundred and eighteen of the acts of nineteen hundred and seventy-seven shall designate which of such licenses governs each practice in which he is engaged and except when engaged in practice as a lecturer, teacher or researcher, he shall use the designated governing license and license title in connection with said practice, including, advertising, business cards or announcements. Said practice shall conform to the regulations of the board of registration which grants the designated license.

The board shall promulgate rules and regulations specifying the required qualifications of the supervising clinician.

The board may issue a license to an applicant as an educational psychologist; provided, however, that each such applicant, in addition to complying with clauses (1), (2) and (5) of the first paragraph shall provide satisfactory evidence to the board that such applicant:

(1) has successfully completed a relevant masters degree in psychology from an educational institution licensed by the state in which it is located;

(2) has successfully completed the equivalent of two full time academic years of post masters degree experience in school psychological services supervised by a licensed educational psychologist or a person eligible for licensing under this section; provided however, that such supervisor has been regularly involved for at least thirty contact hours per year;

(3) has been certified as a school psychologist by the department of education or holds a comparable certification from another state; and

(4) has successfully passed an oral or written examination administered by the board to determine the applicant's qualifications as an educational psychologist.

The board may issue a license to an applicant as an applied behavior analyst; provided, however, that each applicant, in addition to complying with clauses (1) and (2) of the first paragraph shall provide satisfactory evidence to the board that the applicant:

(1) provided that each such applicant demonstrates to the board that they are a Board Certified Behavior Analyst (BCBA; BCBA-D) in good standing with the Behavior Analyst Certification Board (BACB) or has the equivalent certification from a Board-approved program that is accredited by the National Commission for Certifying Agencies (NCCA);

(2) has successfully completed supervised experience in the practice of behavior analysis that meets the standards established by the BACB for BCBAs or has the equivalent supervised experience from a Board-approved program that is accredited by the National Commission for Certifying Agencies (NCCA); and

(3) has successfully passed an examination related to the principles and independent practice of applied behavior analysis established by the BACB for BCBAs or passes the equivalent examination related to the principles and independent practice of applied behavior analysis established by a Board-approved program that is accredited by the National Commission for Certifying Agencies (NCCA).

The board may issue a license to an applicant as an assistant applied behavior analyst; provided, however, that each applicant, in addition to complying with clauses (1) and (2) of the first paragraph shall provide satisfactory evidence to the board that the applicant:

(1) provided that each such applicant demonstrates to the board that they are a Board Certified Assistant Behavior Analyst (BCaBA) in good standing with the BACB or has the equivalent certification from a Board-approved program that is accredited by the National Commission for Certifying Agencies (NCCA);

(2) has successfully completed supervised experience in the practice of behavior analysis that meets the standards established by the BACB for BCaBAs or has the equivalent supervised experience from a Board-approved program that is accredited by the National Commission for Certifying Agencies (NCCA); and

(3) has successfully passed an examination related to the principles and independent practice of applied behavior analysis established by the BACB for BCaBAs or passes the

- 77 equivalent examination related to the principles and independent practice of applied behavior
- 78 analysis established by a Board-approved program that is accredited by the National Commission
- 79 for Certifying Agencies (NCCA).