

HOUSE CS FOR CS FOR SENATE BILL NO. 105(FIN)

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

THIRTIETH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

BY THE HOUSE FINANCE COMMITTEE

Offered: 4/23/18

Referred: Rules

Sponsor(s): SENATOR WILSON

A BILL

FOR AN ACT ENTITLED

"An Act relating to the licensure of marital and family therapists; relating to medical assistance for marital and family therapy services; and providing for an effective date."

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:

*** Section 1.** AS 08.63.100(a) is amended to read:

(a) The board shall issue a license to practice marital and family therapy to a person who

(1) applies on a form provided by the board;

(2) pays the fee established under AS 08.01.065;

(3) furnishes evidence satisfactory to the board that the person

(A) has not engaged in conduct that is a ground for imposing disciplinary sanctions under AS 08.63.210;

(B) holds a master's degree or doctorate in marital and family therapy or allied mental health field from a regionally accredited educational institution approved by the board for which the person completed a course of

study that included instruction substantially equivalent to the following:

(i) three courses or nine semester or 12 quarter hours of course work in marital and family therapy;

(ii) three courses or nine semester or 12 quarter hours of course work in marital and family studies;

(iii) three courses or nine semester or 12 quarter hours of course work in human development;

(iv) one course or three semester or four quarter hours of course work in professional studies or professional ethics and law;

(v) one course or three semester or four quarter hours of course work in research; and

(vi) one year of supervised clinical practice in marital and family therapy;

(C) after receiving a degree described in (B) of this paragraph, has

[(i)] practiced supervised marital and family therapy, including 1,700 [1,500] hours of [DIRECT] clinical contact with couples, individuals, and families; the 1,700 hours of [AND

(ii) BEEN SUPERVISED IN THE] clinical contact must include [FOR] at least [200 HOURS, INCLUDING] 100 hours of individual supervision and 100 hours of group supervision approved by the board; the 100 hours of individual supervision and 100 hours of group supervision may be conducted by one or more supervisors;

(D) has received training related to domestic violence; and

(E) has passed a written or oral examination administered by the board.

* **Sec. 2.** AS 08.63.120(b) is amended to read:

(b) A person who supervises a licensee under this section during (1) individual supervision must

(A) [(1)] have practiced marital and family therapy for five

years;

(B) [(2)] be licensed under this chapter; and

(C) [(3)] meet the minimum standards established by the board

for approved supervisors; **or**

(2) group supervision must be licensed to practice as

(A) a professional counselor under AS 08.29;

(B) a marital and family therapist under AS 08.63;

(C) a physician under AS 08.64 who is a psychiatrist;

(D) an advanced practice registered nurse under AS 08.68

who is certified to provide psychiatric or mental health services by an

entity recognized by the Board of Nursing;

(E) a psychologist under AS 08.86; or

(F) a clinical social worker under AS 08.95.

* **Sec. 3.** AS 47.07.030(b) is amended to read:

(b) In addition to the mandatory services specified in (a) of this section and the services provided under (d) of this section, the department may offer only the following optional services: case management services for traumatic or acquired brain injury; case management and nutrition services for pregnant women; personal care services in a recipient's home; emergency hospital services; long-term care noninstitutional services; medical supplies and equipment; advanced practice registered nurse services; clinic services; rehabilitative services for children eligible for services under AS 47.07.063, substance abusers, and emotionally disturbed or chronically mentally ill adults; targeted case management services; inpatient psychiatric facility services for individuals 65 years of age or older and individuals under 21 years of age; psychologists' services; clinical social workers' services; **marital and family therapy services;** midwife services; prescribed drugs; physical therapy; occupational therapy; chiropractic services; low-dose mammography screening, as defined in AS 21.42.375(e); hospice care; treatment of speech, hearing, and language disorders; adult dental services; prosthetic devices and eyeglasses; optometrists' services; intermediate care facility services, including intermediate care facility services for persons with intellectual and developmental disabilities; skilled

1 nursing facility services for individuals under 21 years of age; and reasonable
2 transportation to and from the point of medical care.

3 * **Sec. 4.** The uncodified law of the State of Alaska is amended by adding a new section to
4 read:

5 TRANSITION: REGULATIONS. The Department of Health and Social Services and
6 the Board of Marital and Family Therapy may adopt regulations necessary to implement the
7 changes made by this Act. The regulations take effect under AS 44.62 (Administrative
8 Procedure Act), but not before the effective date of the law implemented by the regulation.

9 * **Sec. 5.** The uncodified law of the State of Alaska is amended by adding a new section to
10 read:

11 REPORT TO LEGISLATURE. (a) The Department of Health and Social Services
12 shall prepare a report that describes the effectiveness and cost-effectiveness of the coverage of
13 marital and family therapy services as provided in AS 47.07.030(b), as amended by sec. 3 of
14 this Act. The report must include the distribution of services provided by billing code and the
15 diversion from more expensive alternatives.

16 (b) On or before November 30, 2021, the Department of Health and Social Services
17 shall deliver the report under (a) of this section to the senate secretary and the chief clerk of
18 the house of representatives and notify the legislature that the report is available.

19 * **Sec. 6.** Section 4 of this Act takes effect immediately under AS 01.10.070(c).

20 * **Sec. 7.** Except as provided in sec. 6 of this Act, this Act takes effect January 1, 2019.