

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

# SENATE BILL NO. 234

97TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY SENATOR WASSON.

Read 1st time January 29, 2013, and ordered printed.

TERRY L. SPIELER, Secretary.

1016S.011

## AN ACT

To repeal section 337.715, RSMo, and to enact in lieu thereof one new section relating to marital and family therapists.

*Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Missouri, as follows:*

Section A. Section 337.715, RSMo, is repealed and one new section  
2 enacted in lieu thereof, to be known as section 337.715, to read as follows:

337.715. 1. Each applicant for licensure or provisional licensure as a  
2 marital and family therapist shall furnish evidence to the committee that:

3 (1) The applicant has a master's degree or a doctoral degree in marital  
4 and family therapy **from a program accredited by the Commission on**  
5 **Accreditation for Marriage and Family Therapy Education**, or its  
6 equivalent as defined by committee regulation, from an [acceptable] educational  
7 institution accredited by a regional accrediting body [or accredited by an  
8 accrediting body which has been approved] **that is recognized** by the United  
9 States Department of Education;

10 (2) The applicant for licensure as a marital and family therapist has  
11 twenty-four months of postgraduate supervised clinical experience acceptable to  
12 the committee, as the state committee determines by rule;

13 (3) After August 28, 2008, the applicant shall have completed a minimum  
14 of three semester hours of graduate-level course work in diagnostic systems either  
15 within the curriculum leading to a degree as defined in subdivision (1) of this  
16 subsection or as post-master's graduate-level course work. Each applicant shall  
17 demonstrate supervision of diagnosis as a core component of the postgraduate  
18 supervised clinical experience as defined in subdivision (2) of this subsection;

19 (4) Upon examination, the applicant is possessed of requisite knowledge

**EXPLANATION—Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in this bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.**

20 of the profession, including techniques and applications research and its  
21 interpretation and professional affairs and ethics;

22 (5) The applicant is at least eighteen years of age, is of good moral  
23 character, is a United States citizen or has status as a legal resident alien, and  
24 has not been convicted of a felony during the ten years immediately prior to  
25 application for licensure.

26 2. Any person otherwise qualified for licensure holding a current license,  
27 certificate of registration, or permit from another state or territory of the United  
28 States or the District of Columbia to practice marriage and family therapy may  
29 be granted a license without examination to engage in the practice of marital and  
30 family therapy in this state upon application to the state committee, payment of  
31 the required fee as established by the state committee, and satisfaction of the  
32 following:

33 (1) Determination by the state committee that the requirements of the  
34 other state or territory are substantially the same as Missouri;

35 (2) Verification by the applicant's licensing entity that the applicant has  
36 a current license; and

37 (3) Consent by the applicant to examination of any disciplinary history in  
38 any state.

39 3. The state committee shall issue a license to each person who files an  
40 application and fee as required by the provisions of sections 337.700 to 337.739.

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