

SENATE BILL NO. 1308

103RD GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY SENATOR TRENT.

5001S.011

KRISTINA MARTIN, Secretary

AN ACT

To repeal section 337.510, RSMo, and to enact in lieu thereof one new section relating to professional counselors.

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

Section A. Section 337.510, RSMo, is repealed and one new
2 section enacted in lieu thereof, to be known as section 337.510,
3 to read as follows:

337.510. 1. As used in this section, the following
2 terms mean:

3 (1) "License", a license, certificate, registration,
4 permit, accreditation, or military occupational specialty
5 that enables a person to legally practice an occupation or
6 profession in a particular jurisdiction;

7 (2) "Military", the Armed Forces of the United States,
8 including the Air Force, Army, Coast Guard, Marine Corps,
9 Navy, Space Force, National Guard and any other military
10 branch that is designated by Congress as part of the Armed
11 Forces of the United States, and all reserve components and
12 auxiliaries. Such term also includes the military reserves
13 and militia of any United States territory or state;

14 (3) "Nonresident military spouse", a nonresident
15 spouse of an active duty member of the Armed Forces of the
16 United States who has been transferred or is scheduled to be
17 transferred to the state of Missouri, or who has been

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

18 transferred or is scheduled to be transferred to an adjacent
19 state and is or will be domiciled in the state of Missouri,
20 or has moved to the state of Missouri on a permanent change-
21 of-station basis;

22 (4) "Resident military spouse", a spouse of an active
23 duty member of the Armed Forces of the United States who has
24 been transferred or is scheduled to be transferred to the
25 state of Missouri or an adjacent state and who is a
26 permanent resident of the state of Missouri, who is
27 domiciled in the state of Missouri, or who has Missouri as
28 his or her home of record.

29 2. Each applicant for licensure as a professional
30 counselor shall furnish evidence to the committee that the
31 applicant is at least eighteen years of age, is a United
32 States citizen or is legally present in the United States;
33 and

34 (1) The applicant has completed a course of study as
35 defined by the board rule leading to a master's,
36 specialist's, or doctoral degree with a major in counseling,
37 except any applicant who has held a license as a
38 professional counselor in this state or currently holds a
39 license as a professional counselor in another state shall
40 not be required to have completed any courses related to
41 career development; and

42 (2) The applicant has completed acceptable supervised
43 counseling as defined by board rule. If the applicant has a
44 master's degree with a major in counseling as defined by
45 board rule, the applicant shall complete at least two years
46 of acceptable supervised counseling experience subsequent to
47 the receipt of the master's degree. The composition and
48 number of hours comprising the acceptable supervised
49 counseling experience shall be defined by board rule. An

50 applicant may substitute thirty semester hours of post
51 master's graduate study for one of the two required years of
52 acceptable supervised counseling experience if such hours
53 are clearly related to counseling;

54 (3) After August 28, 2007, each applicant shall have
55 completed a minimum of three hours of graduate level
56 coursework in diagnostic systems either in the curriculum
57 leading to a degree or as post master's graduate level
58 course work;

59 (4) Upon examination, the applicant is possessed of
60 requisite knowledge of the profession, including techniques
61 and applications, research and its interpretation, and
62 professional affairs and ethics.

63 3. (1) Any person who holds a valid current
64 professional counselor license issued by another state, a
65 branch or unit of the military, a territory of the United
66 States, or the District of Columbia, and who has been
67 licensed for at least one year in such other jurisdiction,
68 may submit an application for a professional counselor
69 license in Missouri along with proof of current licensure
70 and proof of licensure for at least one year in the other
71 jurisdiction, to the committee.

72 (2) The committee shall:

73 (a) Within six months of receiving an application
74 described in subdivision (1) of this subsection, waive any
75 examination, educational, or experience requirements for
76 licensure in this state for the applicant if it determines
77 that there were minimum education requirements and, if
78 applicable, work experience and clinical supervision
79 requirements in effect and the other state and jurisdiction
80 verifies that the person met those requirements in order to
81 be licensed or certified in that state and jurisdiction.

82 The committee may require an applicant to take and pass an
83 examination specific to the laws of this state; or

84 (b) Within thirty days of receiving an application
85 described in subdivision (1) of this subsection from a
86 nonresident military spouse or a resident military spouse,
87 waive any examination, educational, or experience
88 requirements for licensure in this state for the applicant
89 and issue such applicant a license under this subsection if
90 such applicant otherwise meets the requirements of this
91 subsection [and section].

92 (3) (a) The committee shall not waive any
93 examination, educational, or experience requirements for any
94 applicant who has had his or her license revoked by a
95 committee outside the state; who is currently under
96 investigation, who has a complaint pending, or who is
97 currently under disciplinary action, except as provided in
98 paragraph (b) of this subdivision, with a committee outside
99 the state; who does not hold a license in good standing with
100 a committee outside the state; who has a criminal record
101 that would disqualify him or her for licensure in Missouri;
102 or who does not hold a valid current license in the other
103 jurisdiction on the date the committee receives his or her
104 application under this subsection [and section].

105 (b) If another jurisdiction has taken disciplinary
106 action against an applicant, the committee shall determine
107 if the cause for the action was corrected and the matter
108 resolved. If the matter has not been resolved by that
109 jurisdiction, the committee may deny a license until the
110 matter is resolved.

111 (4) Nothing in this subsection shall prohibit the
112 committee from denying a license to an applicant under this
113 subsection for any reason described in section 337.525.

114 (5) Any person who is licensed under the provisions of
115 this subsection shall be subject to the committee's
116 jurisdiction and all rules and regulations pertaining to the
117 practice as a licensed professional counselor in this state.

118 (6) This subsection shall not be construed to waive
119 any requirement for an applicant to pay any fees.

120 4. **(1)** The **executive director of the** committee shall
121 issue a license to each person who files an application and
122 fee and who furnishes **satisfactory** evidence [satisfactory to
123 the committee] that the applicant has complied with the
124 provisions of [this act and] **sections 337.500 to 337.540,**
125 has taken and passed a written, open-book examination on
126 Missouri laws and regulations governing the practice of
127 professional counseling as defined in section 337.500, **has**
128 **no criminal record that would disqualify the applicant from**
129 **licensure in this state, has no discipline of a license**
130 **outside the state, is not currently under investigation**
131 **outside the state, has no complaint pending outside the**
132 **state, and is not currently under disciplinary action**
133 **outside the state.**

134 **(2) The committee shall review and approve or deny all**
135 **applications for licensure for which licenses are not**
136 **authorized to be issued by the executive director under**
137 **subdivision (1) of this subsection unless otherwise**
138 **delegated to the executive director by the committee.**

139 **(3)** The division shall issue a provisional
140 professional counselor license to any applicant who meets
141 all requirements of this section, but who has not completed
142 the required acceptable supervised counseling experience and
143 such applicant may reapply for licensure as a professional
144 counselor upon completion of such acceptable supervised
145 counseling experience.

146 5. All persons licensed to practice professional
147 counseling in this state shall pay on or before the license
148 renewal date a renewal license fee and shall furnish to the
149 committee satisfactory evidence of the completion of the
150 requisite number of hours of continuing education as
151 required by rule, including two hours of suicide assessment,
152 referral, treatment, and management training, which shall be
153 no more than forty hours biennially. The continuing
154 education requirements may be waived by the committee upon
155 presentation to the committee of satisfactory evidence of
156 the illness of the licensee or for other good cause.

157 **6. The committee shall display, or cause to have**
158 **displayed, the names, addresses, license numbers, and**
159 **license status for all license holders of all license types**
160 **on the division's searchable listing of licensees. A**
161 **license holder may request the redaction of his or her**
162 **address from the division's searchable listing of licensees**
163 **and the division shall redact such address unless the**
164 **committee or other person has good cause to deny the**
165 **redaction.**

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