

SECOND REGULAR SESSION

# HOUSE BILL NO. 1843

## 91ST GENERAL ASSEMBLY

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INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVE JOHNSON (90).

Read 1<sup>st</sup> time February 7, 2002, and 1000 copies ordered printed.

TED WEDEL, Chief Clerk

4541L.011

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### AN ACT

To repeal section 337.500, RSMo, and to enact in lieu thereof one new section relating to professional counselors.

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

Section A. Section 337.500, RSMo, is repealed and one new section enacted in lieu thereof, to be known as section 337.500, to read as follows:

337.500. As used in sections 337.500 to 337.540, unless the context clearly requires otherwise, the following words and phrases mean:

(1) "Committee", the committee for professional counselors;

(2) "Department", the Missouri department of economic development;

(3) "Director", the director of the division of professional registration in the department of economic development;

(4) "Division", the division of professional registration;

(5) "Licensed professional counselor", any person who offers to render professional counseling services to individuals, groups, organizations, institutions, corporations, government agencies or the general public for a fee, monetary or otherwise, implying that the person is trained, experienced, and licensed in counseling, and who holds a current, valid license to practice counseling;

(6) "Practice of professional counseling", rendering, offering to render, or supervising those who render to individuals, couples, groups, organizations, institutions, corporations, schools, government agencies, or the general public any counseling **or psychotherapy** service involving the application of counseling procedures, and the principles and methods thereof, to

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

17 assist in achieving more effective intrapersonal or interpersonal, marital, decisional, social,  
18 educational, vocational, developmental, or rehabilitative adjustments;

19 (7) "Professional counseling", includes, but is not limited to:

20 (a) The use of verbal or nonverbal counseling or both techniques, methods, or procedures  
21 based on principles for assessing, understanding, or influencing behavior (such as principles of  
22 learning, conditioning, perception, motivation, thinking, emotions, or social systems);

23 (b) Appraisal or assessment, which means selecting, administering, scoring, or  
24 interpreting instruments designed to assess a person's or group's aptitudes, intelligence, attitudes,  
25 abilities, achievement, interests, and personal characteristics;

26 (c) **The application of methods, principles, and techniques of case work, group**  
27 **work, client-centered advocacy, community organization, administration, planning,**  
28 **evaluation, consultation, research, psychotherapy, and counseling methods and techniques**  
29 **to persons, families, and groups in assessment, diagnosis, treatment, prevention, and**  
30 **amelioration of mental and emotional conditions;**

31 (d) The use of referral or placement techniques or both which serve to further the goals  
32 of counseling;

33 [(d)] (e) Therapeutic vocational or personal or both rehabilitation in relation to coping  
34 with or adapting to physical disability, emotional disability, or intellectual disability or any  
35 combination of the three;

36 [(e)] (f) Designing, conducting, and interpreting research;

37 [(f)] (g) The use of group methods or techniques to promote the goals of counseling;

38 [(g)] (h) The use of informational and community resources for career, personal, or  
39 social development;

40 [(h)] (i) Consultation on any item in paragraphs (a) through [(g) above] (h) **of this**  
41 **section;** and

42 [(i)] (j) No provision of sections 337.500 to 337.540, or of chapter 354 or 375, RSMo,  
43 shall be construed to mandate benefits or third-party reimbursement for services of professional  
44 counselors in the policies or contracts of any insurance company, health services corporation or  
45 other third-party payer, **and nothing in such sections shall require a hospital or other**  
46 **institution to extend staff privileges to professional counselors;**

47 (8) "Provisional licensed professional counselor", any person who is a graduate of an  
48 acceptable educational institution, as defined by division rules, with at least a master's degree  
49 with a major in counseling, or its equivalent, and meets all requirements of a licensed  
50 professional counselor, other than the supervised counseling experience prescribed by  
51 subdivision (1) of section 337.510, and who is supervised by a person who is qualified for the  
52 practice of professional counseling.