

SB109 ENGROSSED



BILL STATUS



1 KH4K55-3
2 By Senators Coleman-Madison, Orr, Figures, Coleman, Hatcher
3 RFD: Healthcare
4 First Read: 21-Mar-23
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A BILL
TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

Relating to the Alabama Board of Social Work Examiners;
to amend Section 34-30-3, Code of Alabama 1975, and to add
Section 34-30-34 to the Code of Alabama 1975; to provide
further for the scope of practice of licensees.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

Section 1. Section 34-30-3 of the Code of Alabama 1975,
is amended to read as follows:

"§34-30-3

(a) No-person individual may engage in the independent
clinical practice of social work unless he or she is satisfies
all of the following:

(1) Licensed Is licensed under this chapter as a
licensed an independent clinical social worker; and.

(2) Has a doctorate or master's degree from a school of
social work approved, accredited, or in candidacy granted by
the Council on Social Work Education; and.

(3) Has had two years' full-time or three years'
part-time postgraduate experience under appropriate
supervision in the specified social work method or four years'
full-time or five years' part-time postgraduate experience



under appropriate supervision in the speciality in which the applicant will practice.

(4) Has passed an examination prepared by the board for this purpose; except, that prior to the time that an examination is prepared by the board for this purpose, no person individual who otherwise meets the requirements of this section will be prohibited from engaging in the private independent practice of social work; and.

(5) Has been issued by mail a certified letter of certification stating his or her qualification for private independent practice by the board; and.

(6) Has paid an initial certification fee set by the board.

(b) The scope of practice of a licensed independent clinical social worker includes the authority to diagnose and develop treatment plans. The scope of practice does not include the diagnosis, treatment, or provision of advice to a client for problems or complaints relating to conditions outside the boundaries of the practice of social work.

(c) For the purposes of this section, the terms diagnose and treatment, whether considered in isolation or in conjunction with the rules of the board, may not be construed to permit the performance of any act which a licensed clinical social worker is not educated or trained to perform including, but not limited to, any of the following:

(1) Administering and interpreting psychological tests or intellectual, neuropsychological, personality, or projective instruments.



(2) Admitting any individual to a hospital for treatment of any condition that is outside the boundaries of the practice of social work, as provided in subsection (b).

(3) Treating any individual in a hospital setting without medical supervision.

(4) Prescribing medicinal drugs.

(5) Authorizing clinical laboratory procedures or radiological procedures.

(6) Using electroconvulsive therapy.

(d) Nothing in this section shall be construed to create a requirement that any health benefit plan, group insurance plan, policy, or contract for health care services that covers hospital, medical, or surgical expenses, health maintenance organizations, preferred provider organizations, medical service organizations, physician-hospital organizations, or any other individual, firm, corporation, joint venture, or other similar business entity that pays for, purchases, or furnishes group health care services to patients, insureds, or beneficiaries in this state, including entities created pursuant to Article 6, commencing with Section 10A-20-6.01 of Chapter 20, Title 10A, to provide coverage or reimbursement for the services described or authorized in this section."

Section 2. Section 34-30-34 is added to the Code of Alabama 1975, to read as follows:

§34-30-34.

Nothing in this chapter shall be construed to authorize any individual licensed under this chapter to practice

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85 medicine or to describe or label any test, report, or
86 procedure as psychological or as a psychological evaluation.

87 Section 3. This act shall become effective on the first
88 day of the third month following its passage and approval by
89 the Governor, or its otherwise becoming law.

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90
91
92 Senate

93 Read for the first time and referred21-Mar-23
94 to the Senate committee on
95 Healthcare
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97 Read for the second time and placed04-Apr-23
98 on the calendar:
99 0 amendments
100
101 Read for the third time and passed05-Apr-23
102 as amended
103 Yeas 30
104 Nays 0
105 Abstains 0
106
107

108 Patrick Harris,
109 Secretary.
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