

SESSION OF 2022

SUPPLEMENTAL NOTE ON SENATE BILL NO. 387

As Amended by Senate Committee on Public
Health and Welfare

Brief*

SB 387, as amended, would amend licensure requirements for certain professions licensed by the Behavioral Sciences Regulatory Board (Board).

The bill would add to the list of requirements for licensure as a specialist clinical social worker an allowance for applicants who complete additional postgraduate supervised experience as determined by the Board in lieu of completing a graduate level supervised clinical practicum, as required by continuing law.

The bill would allow a master social worker, specialist clinical social worker, professional counselor, clinical professional counselor, marriage and family therapist, clinical marriage and family therapist, master's level psychologist, clinical psychotherapist, or psychologist currently licensed in Kansas to be eligible to take a Board-approved examination for licensure as an addiction counselor.

The bill also would make technical amendments.

Background

The bill was introduced by the Senate Committee on Public Health and Welfare at the request of the Board.

*Supplemental notes are prepared by the Legislative Research Department and do not express legislative intent. The supplemental note and fiscal note for this bill may be accessed on the Internet at <http://www.kslegislature.org>

Senate Committee on Public Health and Welfare

In the Senate Committee hearing on February 9, 2022, the Executive Director of the Board provided **proponent** testimony. He stated the bill would restore a provision removed by 2021 Senate Sub. for HB 2208 that allowed the Board to evaluate applicants to become a licensed specialist clinical social worker who had completed a different form of practicum. He also stated the bill would allow current master's level or clinical level practitioners the flexibility to use their qualifications to seek licensure to become a master's level addiction counselor.

Written-only proponent testimony was provided by three licensed psychologists.

No other testimony was provided.

The Senate Committee amended the bill to remove a provision that would have required a licensed psychologist seeking license renewal, as part of the required 50 hours of continuing education, to complete 3 hours relating to diversity, equity, and inclusion during the 24-month license period. Continuing law requires licensed psychologists to complete three hours of continuing education in ethics and six hours of continuing education in diagnosis and treatment each license period.

Fiscal Information

According to the fiscal note provided by the Division of the budget on the bill, as introduced, the Board indicates certain provisions would be technical in nature while others would increase revenues and expenditures related to additional individuals seeking licensure. The Board indicates 10.0 percent of any new revenue produced by enactment of the bill would be remitted to the State General Fund, and the remaining amount would be credited to the Board in accordance with current law. The Board states it is unable to

determine the number of individuals who may seek licensure under the provisions of the bill, so it could not estimate any revenues and expenditures that may result from the bill's enactment. However, the Board indicates any fiscal effect of expenditures from additional staff time spent reviewing and processing applications, licenses, continuing education, and rules and regulations could be absorbed within the agency's existing resources. Any fiscal effect associated with the bill's enactment is not reflected in *The FY 2023 Governor's Budget Report*.

Behavioral Sciences Regulatory Board; licensure; clinical social worker; psychologist