

HOUSE No. 157

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Paul Brodeur

To the Honorable Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in General Court assembled:

The undersigned legislators and/or citizens respectfully petition for the adoption of the accompanying bill:

An Act to enhance consumer protection and transparency under the social work licensing law.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:
<i>Paul Brodeur</i>	<i>32nd Middlesex</i>
<i>Garrett J. Bradley</i>	<i>3rd Plymouth</i>
<i>Ruth B. Balsler</i>	<i>12th Middlesex</i>
<i>Josh S. Cutler</i>	<i>6th Plymouth</i>
<i>Sal N. DiDomenico</i>	<i>Middlesex and Suffolk</i>
<i>David T. Vieira</i>	<i>3rd Barnstable</i>
<i>Viriato M. DeMacedo</i>	<i>Plymouth and Barnstable</i>
<i>James B. Eldridge</i>	<i>Middlesex and Worcester</i>
<i>Jason M. Lewis</i>	<i>Fifth Middlesex</i>
<i>Steven Ultrino</i>	<i>33rd Middlesex</i>
<i>Thomas J. Calter</i>	<i>12th Plymouth</i>
<i>Daniel J. Ryan</i>	<i>2nd Suffolk</i>
<i>Aaron Michlewitz</i>	<i>3rd Suffolk</i>
<i>James M. Cantwell</i>	<i>4th Plymouth</i>
<i>Nick Collins</i>	<i>4th Suffolk</i>
<i>Claire D. Cronin</i>	<i>11th Plymouth</i>
<i>Marjorie C. Decker</i>	<i>25th Middlesex</i>
<i>Sean Garballey</i>	<i>23rd Middlesex</i>

<i>Denise C. Garlick</i>	<i>13th Norfolk</i>
<i>Anne M. Gobi</i>	<i>Worcester, Hampden, Hampshire and Middlesex</i>
<i>Jonathan Hecht</i>	<i>29th Middlesex</i>
<i>Paul R. Heroux</i>	<i>2nd Bristol</i>
<i>Kate Hogan</i>	<i>3rd Middlesex</i>
<i>Daniel J. Hunt</i>	<i>13th Suffolk</i>
<i>Louis L. Kafka</i>	<i>8th Norfolk</i>
<i>Kay Khan</i>	<i>11th Middlesex</i>
<i>John J. Lawn, Jr.</i>	<i>10th Middlesex</i>
<i>David Paul Linsky</i>	<i>5th Middlesex</i>
<i>Paul McMurtry</i>	<i>11th Norfolk</i>
<i>David M. Rogers</i>	<i>24th Middlesex</i>
<i>Todd M. Smola</i>	<i>1st Hampden</i>
<i>Thomas M. Stanley</i>	<i>9th Middlesex</i>
<i>Benjamin Swan</i>	<i>11th Hampden</i>

HOUSE No. 157

By Mr. Brodeur of Melrose, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 157) of Paul Brodeur and others relative to enhancing consumer protection and transparency under the social work licensing law. Consumer Protection and Professional Licensure.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

**In the One Hundred and Eighty-Ninth General Court
(2015-2016)**

An Act to enhance consumer protection and transparency under the social work licensing law.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 130 of chapter 112 of the General Laws, is hereby amended by
2 striking out the definition "Licensed social work associate".

3 SECTION 2. Paragraph 2 of section 131 of said chapter 112 is hereby
4 amended by striking out said paragraph and inserting in place thereof the
5 following:--

6 Any individual desiring to obtain a license as a social worker shall
7 make an application therefor to the board upon such form and in such manner as the
8 board shall prescribe and shall furnish evidence satisfactory to the board that he/she has received
9 a baccalaureate degree, master’s degree or doctoral degree in social work from an accredited
10 educational institution. Said individual shall also furnish evidence satisfactory to the board that

11 he/she has passed an examination prepared by the board for this purpose; and will conduct their
12 activities as a social worker in accordance with generally accepted professional standards.

13 SECTION 3. Said section 131 of said chapter 112 is hereby further amended by
14 striking out paragraphs four and five.

15 SECTION 4. Paragraph 1 of section 132 of said chapter 112 is hereby
16 amended by striking out the first sentence thereof and inserting in place thereof the
17 following: "Examinations for licensed certified social workers, including those in independent
18 clinical practice, and licensed social workers shall be conducted at least two times per year at
19 times and places designated by the board".

20 SECTION 5. Paragraph 2 of section 133 of said chapter 112 is hereby
21 amended by striking out the words:-- "or a licensed social work associate".

22 SECTION 6. Said section 134 of said chapter 112 is hereby amended by striking out
23 paragraph three.

24 SECTION 7. Paragraph 1 of section 136 of said chapter 112 is hereby
25 amended by striking out the second sentence thereof and inserting in place thereof the
26 following:-- "The license of licensed certified social workers, including those engaged in
27 independent clinical practice, and licensed social workers shall expire on a date to be determined
28 by the board".

29 SECTION 8. Notwithstanding any provision of this Act to the contrary, an individual
30 having a license as a social worker or as a social work associate prior to the effective date of this

31 Act shall continue to hold and may renew such license under the terms and conditions of chapter
32 112, sections 130 through 136, in effect immediately prior to such effective date.

33 SECTION 9. For a period of six months following the effective date of

34 this Act, any individual making application to be a licensed social work associate shall be
35 considered for licensure by the board under the provisions of chapter 112, section 131, paragraph
36 two in effect immediately prior to such effective date.