

Chapter 467

(House Bill 947)

AN ACT concerning

Professional Standards and Teacher Education Board – School Counselors – Certification Renewal Requirement (Lauryn’s Law)

FOR the purpose of requiring the Professional Standards and Teacher Education Board to require, beginning on or before a certain date, certain ~~applicants for renewal of certification~~ certificate holders applying for renewal of a certificate as a school counselor to have ~~successfully completed a certain number of credit hours of continuing professional development in a certain course regarding the recognition of initial screening for, and response to emotional and behavioral distress in students and other individuals; requiring a certain course to include certain information;~~ obtained, by a method determined by the Board, certain knowledge and skills required to understand and respond to the social, emotional, and personal development of students; requiring the Board to adopt certain regulations; and generally relating to a certification renewal requirement for school counselors by the Professional Standards and Teacher Education Board.

BY adding to

Article – Education
Section 6-704.1
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2014 Replacement Volume and 2014 Supplement)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

Article – Education

6-704.1.

(A) ~~**BEGINNING ON OR BEFORE JULY 1, 2016, THE BOARD SHALL REQUIRE AN APPLICANT FOR RENEWAL OF A CERTIFICATE A CERTIFICATE HOLDER APPLYING FOR RENEWAL OF A CERTIFICATE AS A SCHOOL COUNSELOR TO HAVE SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETED 1 CREDIT HOUR OF CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT IN AN EVIDENCE-BASED COURSE THAT PROVIDES**~~ **OBTAINED, BY A METHOD DETERMINED BY THE BOARD, THE KNOWLEDGE AND SKILL STANDARDS REGARDING THE RECOGNITION OF, INITIAL SCREENING FOR, AND RESPONSE TO EMOTIONAL AND BEHAVIORAL DISTRESS IN STUDENTS AND OTHER INDIVIDUALS, INCLUDING INDICATORS OF SUBSTANCE ABUSE, VIOLENCE, MENTAL ILLNESS, AND YOUTH SUICIDE.**

~~(B) THE COURSE REQUIRED UNDER SUBSECTION (A) OF THIS SECTION SHALL INCLUDE:~~

~~(1) STRATEGIES FOR HELPING AN INDIVIDUAL EXPERIENCING A MENTAL HEALTH OR SUBSTANCE ABUSE CRISIS;~~

~~(2) AN INTRODUCTION TO THE RISK FACTORS AND WARNING SIGNS FOR MENTAL ILLNESS AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE PROBLEMS;~~

~~(3) INFORMATION OF EVIDENCE-SUPPORTED TREATMENT AND SELF-HELP STRATEGIES; AND~~

~~(4) IDENTIFYING PROFESSIONAL HELP AND OTHER SUPPORTS AND RESOURCES FOR INDIVIDUALS IN CRISIS. SKILLS REQUIRED TO UNDERSTAND AND RESPOND TO THE SOCIAL, EMOTIONAL, AND PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT OF STUDENTS, INCLUDING KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS RELATING TO:~~

~~(1) THE RECOGNITION OF INDICATORS OF MENTAL ILLNESS AND BEHAVIORAL DISTRESS, INCLUDING DEPRESSION, TRAUMA, VIOLENCE, YOUTH SUICIDE, AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE; AND~~

~~(2) THE IDENTIFICATION OF PROFESSIONAL RESOURCES TO HELP STUDENTS IN CRISIS.~~

~~(B) THE BOARD SHALL ADOPT REGULATIONS TO IMPLEMENT THE PROVISIONS OF THIS SECTION.~~

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 2015.

Approved by the Governor, May 12, 2015.