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SENATE BILL 806

43RD LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 1997

INTRODUCED BY

MANNY M ARAGON

AN ACT

RELATING TO PROFESSIONAL LICENSES; AMENDING THE MINIMUM PASSING
SCORE ON EXAMINATIONS FOR PSYCHOLOGISTS AND PSYCHOLOGIST
ASSOCIATES; ALLOWING LICENSURE UNDER CERTAIN CONDITIONS.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO:

Section 1. Section 61-9-11 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1963,
Chapter 92, Section 10, as amended) is amended to read:

"61-9-11. LICENSURE-- EXAMINATION. --

A. The board shall issue a license as a psychologist
to each applicant who files an application upon a form and in
such manner as the board prescribes, accompanied by the fee
required by the Professional Psychologist Act, and who furnishes
evidence satisfactory to the board that he:

- (1) has reached the age of majority;
- (2) is of good moral character;

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1 (3) is not in violation of any of the
2 provisions of the Professional Psychologist Act and the rules
3 and regulations adopted pursuant to that act;

4 (4) holds a doctoral degree based in part on a
5 psychological dissertation from a school or college;

6 (5) has had an internship approved by the
7 American psychological association and one year of experience
8 after receiving the doctoral degree or has had, after receiving
9 the doctoral degree, at least two years of supervised experience
10 in psychological work of a type satisfactory to the board; and

11 (6) demonstrates professional competence by
12 passing:

13 (a) the examination for professional
14 practice in psychology promulgated by the association of state
15 and provincial psychology boards with a minimum score equivalent
16 to or greater than [~~the statistical mean~~] seventy percent as
17 reported by the association of state and provincial psychology
18 boards for all doctoral-level candidates taking the examination
19 on that occasion; and

20 (b) an oral examination administered and
21 graded by the board, investigating the applicant's training,
22 experience and knowledge. The oral examination shall be
23 evaluated on a pass-fail basis.

24 B. Upon investigation of the application and other
25 evidence submitted, the board shall, not less than thirty days

1 prior to the examination, notify each applicant that the
2 application and evidence submitted for licensure are
3 satisfactory and accepted or unsatisfactory and rejected. If
4 rejected, the notice shall state the reasons for rejection.

5 C. The place of examination shall be designated in
6 advance by the board, and examinations shall be given at such
7 time and place and under such supervision as the board may
8 determine.

9 D. In the event an applicant fails to receive a
10 passing grade, he may apply for [~~re-examinations~~] reexamination
11 and shall be allowed to take a subsequent examination upon
12 payment of the fee required by the Professional Psychologist
13 Act.

14 E. The board shall keep a record of all
15 examinations, and the grade assigned to each, as part of its
16 records for at least two years subsequent to the date of
17 examination. "

18 Section 2. Section 61-9-11.1 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1983,
19 Chapter 334, Section 4, as amended) is amended to read:

20 "61-9-11.1. PSYCHOLOGIST ASSOCIATES--LICENSURE--
21 EXAMINATION.--

22 A. The board shall issue a license as a psychologist
23 associate to each applicant who files an application upon a form
24 and in such manner as the board prescribes, accompanied by the
25 fee required by the Professional Psychologist Act, and who

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1 furnishes evidence satisfactory to the board that he:

2 (1) has reached the age of majority, is of good
3 moral character and is not in violation of any of the provisions
4 of the Professional Psychologist Act and the rules and
5 regulations adopted pursuant to that act;

6 (2) holds a master's degree in psychology from
7 a department of psychology of a school or college;

8 (3) has had, after receiving the master's
9 degree, at least five years of experience, one of which shall be
10 supervised, in psychological work of a type satisfactory to the
11 board; and

12 (4) demonstrates professional competence by
13 passing:

14 (a) the examination for professional
15 practice in psychology promulgated by the association of state
16 and provincial psychology boards with a score equivalent to or
17 greater than ~~[the statistical mean]~~ sixty-five percent as
18 reported by the association of state and provincial psychology
19 boards for all master's-level candidates taking the examination
20 on that occasion; and

21 (b) an oral examination administered and
22 graded by the board, investigating the applicant's training,
23 experience and knowledge of his area of practice. The oral
24 examination shall be evaluated on a pass-fail basis.

25 B. Upon investigation of the application and other

1 evidence submitted, the board shall, not less than thirty days
2 prior to the examination, notify each applicant that the
3 application and evidence submitted for licensure is satisfactory
4 and accepted or unsatisfactory and rejected. If rejected, the
5 notice shall state the reasons for rejection.

6 C. The place of examination shall be designated in
7 advance by the board, and examinations shall be given at such
8 time and place and under such supervision as the board may
9 determine.

10 D. In the event an applicant fails to receive a
11 passing grade, he may apply for [~~re-examinations~~] reexamination
12 and shall be allowed to take a subsequent examination upon
13 payment of the fee required by the Professional Psychologist
14 Act.

15 E. The board shall keep a record of all
16 examinations, and the grade assigned to each, as part of its
17 records for at least two years subsequent to the date of
18 examination.

19 F. The board may adopt reasonable rules and
20 regulations classifying areas and conditions of practice
21 permissible for psychologist associates. "

22 Section 3. TEMPORARY PROVISION--LICENSURE UNDER CERTAIN
23 CONDITIONS.--For the purposes of licensing psychologists
24 pursuant to the Professional Psychologist Act, an applicant who
25 has a doctoral degree; has five years' post-doctoral experience

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1 within the ten years prior to July 31, 1997; has scored at least
2 seventy percent on the examination for professional practice in
3 psychology promulgated by the association of state and
4 provincial psychology boards; and meets all the other
5 requirements set forth in the Professional Psychologist Act
6 shall be deemed to have met all the qualifications for
7 licensure.

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