



# Representative Ivy Spohnholz

House Health & Social Services Committee Chair

*Serving District 16: College Gate, Russian Jack, Nunaka Valley, Reflection Lake & Wonder Park  
Committee Member: Education, Energy, Military & Veterans Affairs, Legislative Budget & Audit*

## Sectional Analysis v. 30-LS1425|A

House Bill 353

Marital & Family Therapy Lic. & Services

“An Act relating to the licensure of marital and family therapists; relating to medical assistance for marital and family therapy services; and providing for an effective date.”

**Section 1. AS 08.63.100(a)** is amended to clarify that before an individual can receive a license to practice marital and family therapy, they must complete 1,500 of supervised clinical hours. Of those 1,500 hours, 100 hours must be individual supervision and 100 hours must be for group supervision. These 200 hours may be attended by one or more supervisors.

**Section 2. AS 08.63.120(b)** is amended to state that a supervisor who oversees a license for individual supervision must have practiced marital and family therapy for five years, be licensed under this chapter, and meet the minimum standards established by the board for approved supervisors. A supervisor who oversees a licensee for group supervision must be licensed to practice as a professional counselor, a marital and family therapist, a physician, advanced nurse practitioner, psychologist, or clinical social worker.

**Section 3. AS 47.07.030(b)** is amended to add marital and family therapists' services to the list of optional services that the Department of Health & Social Services (DHSS) may offer.

**Section 4. AS 47.07.030(g)** defines “direct supervision,” “mental health physician clinic,” and “psychiatrist.”

**Section 5. AS 47.07.030** is amending by adding a new section (h) that allows DHSS to reimburse a mental health physician clinic for services provided by a psychiatrist or an individual who works under direct supervisor and is licensed to practice as a professional counselor, a marital and family therapist, physician assistant, advanced nurse practitioner, psychologist, psychological associate, or clinical social worker.

**Section 6.** Authorizes DHSS and the Board of Marital and Family Therapy to adopt regulations necessary to implement this Act.

**Section 7.** States that Sec.6 of this Act will take effect immediately under AS 01.10.070(c).

**Section 8.** Not including Sec.7 of this Act, the effective date of this bill will be January 1, 2019.

Session (January-April):  
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