

**SENATE CS FOR CS FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 343(RLS)**

**IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA**

**TWENTY-SECOND LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION**

**BY THE SENATE RULES COMMITTEE**

**Offered: 4/4/02**

**Referred: Today's Calendar**

**Sponsor(s): HOUSE LABOR AND COMMERCE COMMITTEE**

**A BILL**

**FOR AN ACT ENTITLED**

1   **"An Act extending the termination date of the Board of Professional Counselors; and**  
2   **relating to licensing of professional counselors."**

3   **BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:**

4    \* **Section 1.** AS 08.03.010(c)(17) is amended to read:

5                               (17) Board of Professional Counselors (AS 08.29.010) -- June 30,  
6       **2005** [2002];

7    \* **Sec. 2.** AS 08.29.110(a) is amended to read:

8                               (a) The board shall issue a professional counselor license to a person who  
9       applies for the license, submits the required fee, submits two letters of  
10      recommendation from professional counselors who are familiar with the applicant's  
11      practice of professional counseling, and presents evidence satisfactory to the board  
12      that the person

13                              (1) is at least 18 years of age;

14                              (2) is not under investigation in this or another jurisdiction for an act

1 that would constitute a violation of this chapter;

2 (3) has not had a license related to the practice of counseling,  
3 psychology, marital and family therapy, or social work in this or another jurisdiction  
4 suspended, revoked, or surrendered in lieu of discipline unless the license has been  
5 fully reinstated in that jurisdiction;

6 (4) has passed a written examination as required by the board; the  
7 board may provide that passing a nationally recognized examination for professional  
8 counselors is sufficient to meet the examination requirement of this paragraph;

9 (5) has successfully completed either

10 (A) an earned doctoral degree in counseling or a related  
11 professional field from a regionally or nationally accredited institution of  
12 higher education approved by the board; or

13 (B) an earned master's degree in counseling or a related  
14 professional field, from a regionally or nationally accredited institution of  
15 higher education approved by the board, and [CONSISTING OF] at least 60  
16 [48 SEMESTER HOURS AND AT LEAST 12 OTHER] graduate semester  
17 hours in counseling during or after earning the master's degree [, FOR A  
18 TOTAL OF AT LEAST 60 HOURS]; and

19 (6) has, after earning the degree required under [COMPLETING  
20 THE REQUIREMENT OF] either (5)(A) or (B) of this subsection, had at least 3,000  
21 hours of supervised experience in the practice of professional counseling performed  
22 over a period of at least two years under the supervision of a supervisor approved  
23 under AS 08.29.210, with at least 1,000 hours of direct counseling with individuals,  
24 couples, families, or groups and at least 100 hours of face-to-face supervision by a  
25 supervisor approved under AS 08.29.210 unless, under regulations of the board, the  
26 board allows the supervision to be by telephonic or electronic means because of the  
27 remote location of the counselor.

28 \* **Sec. 3.** AS 08.29.210 is amended to read:

29 **Sec. 08.29.210. Supervisor certification.** (a) The board shall approve and  
30 certify a person as an approved counselor supervisor for the purposes of this chapter if  
31 the person

(1) is licensed [UNDER THIS CHAPTER] as a professional counselor or is a licensed physician, licensed advanced nurse practitioner who is certified to provide psychiatric or mental health services, licensed clinical social worker, licensed marital and family therapist, licensed psychologist, or licensed psychological associate;

(2) submits an application for certification and the appropriate fee;

(3) has five years of counseling experience;

(4) provides to the board for its approval or disapproval a statement that details the person's supervision philosophy, orientation, and experience; and

(5) meets other criteria that may be established by the board in regulations.

(b) Certification under (a) of this section remains in effect, without the need for renewal of the certification, until the person's **professional** licensure [AS A PROFESSIONAL COUNSELOR] is revoked, suspended, or otherwise lapses.