

CS FOR SENATE BILL NO. 257(FIN)

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

TWENTY-SECOND LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

BY THE SENATE FINANCE COMMITTEE

Offered: 2/13/02

Referred: Rules

Sponsor(s): SENATE 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.