

SENATE BILL NO. 302

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA
TWENTY-SECOND LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

BY SENATOR WILKEN

Introduced: 2/19/02

Referred: Health, Education and Social Services, Judiciary

A BILL

FOR AN ACT ENTITLED

1 **"An Act defining the term 'mental health professional' for the purpose of statutes**
2 **relating to the evaluation of prisoners who may need psychological or psychiatric**
3 **treatment, for the purpose of statutes relating to the evaluation of children in need of aid**
4 **and delinquent minors who may need to be confined in a secure residential psychiatric**
5 **treatment center or who should be released from such a center, for the purpose of**
6 **statutes requiring certain professionals to report the possibility that a vulnerable adult**
7 **has been abused or neglected, and for the purpose of statutes relating to mental health**
8 **civil commitments."**

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

10 *** Section 1.** AS 47.30.915(11) is amended to read:

11 (11) "mental health professional" means a psychiatrist or physician
12 who is licensed **by the State Medical Board** to practice in this state or **is** employed by

1 the federal government; a clinical psychologist licensed by the state Board of
 2 Psychologist and Psychological Associate Examiners; a psychological associate
 3 trained in clinical psychology and licensed by the Board of Psychologist and
 4 Psychological Associate Examiners; a registered nurse with a master's degree in
 5 psychiatric nursing, licensed by the State Board of Nursing; **a marital and family**
 6 **therapist licensed by the Board of Marital and Family Therapy; a professional**
 7 **counselor licensed by the Board of Professional Counselors;** [AND] a **clinical**
 8 social worker **licensed by the Board of Social Work Examiners; and a person**

9 **(A) with a master's degree in the field of mental health;**

10 **(B) who has at least 24 months of post-masters working** [IN
 11 SOCIAL WORK AND SUBSTANTIAL] experience in the field of mental
 12 illness;

13 **(C) who is in the process of qualifying for licensure by a**
 14 **board named in this paragraph; and**

15 **(D) who is working under the supervision of a type of**
 16 **licensee listed in this paragraph;**