

Introduced: 5/2/85
Referred: Health, Education &
Social Services, Labor & Commerce
and Finance

1 IN THE HOUSE

BY PIGNALBERI

2 HOUSE BILL NO. 421

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 FOURTEENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

5 A BILL

6 For an Act entitled: "An Act relating to the regulation of the practice of
7 marital and family therapy; amending Rule 504 of the
8 Alaska Rules of Evidence; and providing for an effective
9 date."

10 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:

11 * Section 1. LEGISLATIVE FINDINGS, PURPOSE. (a) The legislature finds
12 that the practice of marital and family therapy affects the safety and
13 welfare of the public and requires regulation and control by the state in
14 the public interest.

15 (b) The purpose of this Act is to establish a regulatory board and
16 procedures to ensure that the public is protected from the unprofessional,
17 improper, and unauthorized practice of marital and family therapy. This
18 Act shall be liberally construed to carry out this purpose.

19 * Sec. 2. AS 08.01.010 is amended by adding a new paragraph to read:

20 (26) Board of Marital and Family Therapy (AS 08.63.010).

21 * Sec. 3. AS 08.01.050(a) is amended to read:

22 (a) The department shall provide the following administrative
23 and budgetary services when appropriate:

24 (1) collect fees and issue receipts;

25 (2) maintain records and files;

26 (3) issue and receive application forms;

27 (4) notify applicants of acceptance or rejection of appli-
28 cants as determined by the board;

29 (5) designate dates examinations are to be held and notify

1 applicants;

2 (6) publish notice of examination;

3 (7) arrange space for holding examinations;

4 (8) notify applicants of results of examinations;

5 (9) issue licenses and certificates or temporary licenses
6 or certificates as authorized by the board;

7 (10) issue duplicate licenses or certificates upon proof by
8 the licensee of loss of the original and payment by the licensee of a
9 fee of \$2 except as otherwise provided in this title;

10 (11) notify licensees of renewal dates at least 30 days
11 before the expiration date of their licenses;

12 (12) compile and maintain current a register of licenses;

13 (13) answer routine inquiries;

14 (14) maintain files relating to individual licensees;

15 (15) arrange for printing and advertising;

16 (16) purchase supplies;

17 (17) employ secretarial help when needed;

18 (18) perform other services which may be requested by the
19 board;

20 (19) provide investigative services to the boards estab-
21 lished under AS 08.04, AS 08.20, AS 08.36, AS 08.63, AS 08.64, AS 08.-
22 68, AS 08.70, AS 08.71, AS 08.72, AS 08.80, AS 08.84, and AS 08.86,
23 for the purpose of assisting those boards in matters of professional
24 discipline and in responding to consumer complaints.

25 * Sec. 4. AS 08.02.010(a) is amended to read:

26 (a) A person licensed in the state as a chiropractor under
27 AS 08.20, a dentist under AS 08.36, a marital and family therapist
28 under AS 08.63, a medical practitioner or osteopath under AS 08.64, a
29 registered nurse under AS 08.68, an optometrist under AS 08.72, a

1 registered pharmacist under AS 08.80, a registered physical therapist
2 under AS 08.84, or a psychologist under AS 08.86, shall use as profes-
3 sional identification appropriate letters or a title after that per-
4 son's name which represents that person's specific field of practice.
5 The letters or title shall appear on all signs, stationery or other
6 advertising in which the person offers or displays personal profes-
7 sional services to the public. In addition, a person engaged in the
8 practice of medicine or osteopathy under AS 08.64.380(2), or a person
9 engaged in any manner in the healing arts who diagnoses, treats,
10 tests, or counsels other persons in relation to human health or dis-
11 ease and uses the letters "M.D." or the title "doctor" or "physician"
12 or another [ANY OTHER] title that [WHICH] tends to show that the
13 person is willing or qualified to diagnose, treat, test, or counsel
14 another person, shall clarify the letters or title by adding the
15 appropriate specialist designation, if any, such as "dermatologist",
16 "radiologist", "audiologist", "naturopath", or the like.

17 * Sec. 5. AS 08.03.010(c) is amended by adding a new paragraph to read:

18 (21) Board of Marital and Family Therapy (AS 08.63.010) --
19 June 30, 1988.

20 * Sec. 6. AS 08 is amended by adding a new chapter to read:

21 CHAPTER 63. MARITAL AND FAMILY THERAPY.

22 ARTICLE 1. BOARD OF MARITAL AND FAMILY THERAPY.

23 Sec. 08.63.010. BOARD ESTABLISHED. There is established the
24 Board of Marital and Family Therapy.

25 Sec. 08.63.020. MEMBERSHIP. (a) The board consists of five
26 persons licensed under this chapter and two members of the public.

27 (b) The members of the board must be residents of the state for
28 three years before appointment.

29 (c) Each professional member must, for the five years

1 immediately preceding appointment, have been engaged in the active
2 practice of marital and family therapy.

3 Sec. 08.63.030. BOARD APPOINTMENTS. (a) The governor shall
4 appoint the members of the board subject to confirmation by the legis-
5 lature for staggered terms of four years.

6 (b) Before appointment, the governor shall request a list of
7 eligible candidates for a board position from the professional organi-
8 zations in the state that represent the practice of marital and family
9 therapy.

10 (c) The governor shall annually designate one member of the
11 board to serve as chairperson of the board.

12 (d) The governor may not appoint the same person more than once
13 to fill an unexpired term on the board. A person may not serve as a
14 member of the board for more than two consecutive terms.

15 Sec. 08.63.040. MEETINGS. The board shall hold three meetings
16 each year and may hold special meetings at the call of the chairperson
17 or a majority of the board members.

18 Sec. 08.63.050. REMOVAL OF BOARD MEMBERS. The governor may
19 remove a member of the board for good cause, including:

- 20 (1) unexcused absences from board meetings;
21 (2) neglect of duty;
22 (3) incompetence;
23 (4) prolonged illness that impairs the execution of board
24 duties;
25 (5) unprofessional conduct;
26 (6) conviction of a felony;
27 (7) conviction of a crime involving moral turpitude;
28 (8) an emotional disturbance that prevents the member from
29 carrying out board duties;

1 (9) impairment of judgment by the use of alcohol or other
2 drugs;

3 (10) addiction or severe dependency on alcohol or another
4 drug.

5 Sec. 08.63.060. POWERS AND DUTIES OF THE BOARD. (a) The board
6 shall

7 (1) examine applicants and issue licenses to qualified
8 applicants;

9 (2) issue certificates to persons who meet the standards
10 determined by the board for specialty certification;

11 (3) establish continuing education requirements for license
12 renewal after consulting with the standards committee;

13 (4) adopt a code of ethical practice for marital and family
14 therapy after a review of the ethical standards established by
15 national organizations for marital and family therapy;

16 (5) hold hearings, and order the disciplinary sanction of a
17 person who violates this chapter or a regulation of the board;

18 (6) report annually to the governor and the department on
19 the board's proceedings each year;

20 (7) forward minutes of board meetings to the department
21 within 20 days of each meeting;

22 (8) establish standards for supervisors and supervision
23 under this chapter;

24 (9) enforce the provisions of this chapter and adopt regu-
25 lations necessary to make the provisions of this chapter effective.

26 (b) The board may seek and obtain grants, gifts, and other
27 funds, excluding loans, from private and public foundations and
28 institutions to carry out the provisions of this chapter.

29 Sec. 08.63.070. STANDARDS COMMITTEE. (a) The board shall

1 appoint a standards committee for marital and family therapy.

2 (b) The standards committee consists of three board members, one
3 of whom is a public member of the board.

4 (c) The standards committee shall advise the board on the li-
5 censing and regulation of marital and family therapists.

6 (d) The standards committee shall recommend to the board the
7 following items:

8 (1) by a majority vote, the approval or disapproval of the
9 granting of licenses;

10 (2) approval of the examination for licensure;

11 (3) the grading and contents of examinations;

12 (4) policy and regulation changes;

13 (5) investigations, hearings, or assessment of violations
14 of this chapter;

15 (6) penalties for violations of this chapter;

16 (7) ethical standards;

17 (8) licensure guidelines or criteria for licensure and
18 supervision requirements.

19 (e) The standards committee shall perform the following duties:

20 (1) review applications, handle routine inquiries, and
21 provide information to the general public;

22 (2) act as a liaison between the board and educational
23 institutions;

24 (3) assist the board in keeping a registry of licensees,
25 supervisors, supervisees, and license renewals;

26 (4) assist the board in establishing continuing education
27 requirements for licensing renewal, and supervisor requirements;

28 (5) develop and administer the license application process;

29 (6) other duties relating to licensure that the board

1 delegates to the standards committee.

2 (f) A decision of the standards committee is not final until the
3 board approves the decision. The board may initiate an action or
4 otherwise perform a duty that a standards committee is authorized to
5 perform.

6 Sec. 08.63.080. AUTHORIZED SUPERVISORS. (a) Except for super-
7 vision under AS 08.63.100(a)(3)(B), a person may not supervise a
8 person under this chapter unless approved by the board to be a super-
9 visor.

10 (b) A person who supervises a licensee under this section must

11 (1) have practiced marital and family therapy for five
12 years;

13 (2) meet the minimum standards established by the board for
14 approved supervisors.

15 (c) A supervisor approved by the board shall

16 (1) accept and continue to supervise a person only if the
17 supervisor believes that the person has the potential to qualify
18 subsequently for a license to practice marital and family therapy;

19 (2) familiarize the person being supervised with the impor-
20 tant literature in marital and family therapy;

21 (3) direct the work of the person being supervised in the
22 processes of marital and family therapy;

23 (4) arrange for the work being supervised to be conducted
24 in appropriate professional settings and with appropriate administra-
25 tive and clinical controls;

26 (5) report as required by the board about the person being
27 supervised;

28 (6) consult with the board on the record, personal adjust-
29 ment, and clinical competence of the person being supervised;

1 (7) set the fee for the supervision by private contract
2 with the person being supervised;

3 (8) maintain professional liability insurance.

4 Sec. 08.63.090. PROCEDURES. The Administrative Procedure Act
5 (AS 44.62) applies to regulations and proceedings under this chapter.

6 ARTICLE 2. MARITAL AND FAMILY THERAPY LICENSES.

7 Sec. 08.63.100. QUALIFICATIONS FOR LICENSE TO PRACTICE. (a)
8 The board shall issue a license to practice marital and family therapy
9 to a person who

10 (1) applies on a form provided by the board;

11 (2) pays the fee required under AS 08.63.140;

12 (3) furnishes evidence satisfactory to the board that the
13 person

14 (A) has not engaged in conduct that is a ground for
15 imposing disciplinary sanctions under AS 08.63.170;

16 (B) holds a master's degree, doctorate, or the equiva-
17 lent, from an accredited educational institution approved by the
18 board, for which the person completed a course of study that
19 included one year of supervised marital and family therapy clin-
20 ical practice with 500 hours of supervised client contact and

21 (i) three courses in marital and family therapy;

22 (ii) three courses in marital and family studies;

23 (iii) three courses in human development;

24 (iv) one course in professional studies or profes-
25 sional ethics and law;

26 (v) one course in research;

27 (C) after receiving a degree listed in (B) of this
28 paragraph, has

29 (i) practiced marital and family therapy within

1 three years of the person's application, including 1,500
2 hours of direct clinical contact with couples and families;
3 and

4 (ii) has been supervised in the clinical contact
5 for at least 200 hours, including 100 hours of individual
6 supervision and 100 hours of group supervision approved by
7 the board; and

8 (D) has passed a written or oral examination adminis-
9 tered by the board.

10 (b) The board shall credit an applicant with the hours the
11 applicant has earned in supervised practice under AS 08.63.110 towards
12 satisfaction of the hours of supervision required under this section.

13 (c) The board may not allow an applicant who fails an examina-
14 tion given under this section to take a subsequent examination for a
15 period of six months from the date of the examination that the appli-
16 cant failed.

17 (d) A license issued under this section expires two years from
18 the date of issue. It may be renewed by payment of the fee required
19 under AS 08.63.140 and by satisfaction of the continuing education
20 requirements established by the board for the renewal of licenses
21 issued under this section.

22 Sec. 08.63.110. LICENSE FOR SUPERVISED PRACTICE. (a) The board
23 shall issue a four-year license for the supervised practice of marital
24 and family therapy to a person who meets the requirements of AS 08.-
25 63.100(a)(1), (2), and (3)(A) - (B).

26 (b) A licensee under this section may practice only

27 (1) under the direct supervision of a supervisor approved
28 by the board; and

29 (2) in a clinic, social service agency, or other setting

1 approved by the board.

2 (c) A license for supervised practice expires four years from
3 the date of issuance and may not be renewed.

4 (d) A licensee under this section shall submit to the board for
5 its approval a proposed plan for satisfying the supervision require-
6 ments of AS 08.63.100(a)(3)(C).

7 (e) A licensee under this section shall use the title "marital
8 therapy associate," "family therapy associate," or other title that is
9 approved by the board.

10 (f) The board shall revoke a license for supervised practice if
11 the person fails the examination required under AS 08.63.100 two or
12 more times.

13 Sec. 08.63.120. TEMPORARY LICENSE FOR THE PRACTICE OF MARITAL
14 AND FAMILY THERAPY. (a) The board shall issue a temporary license
15 for the practice of marital and family therapy to an applicant who
16 satisfies the requirements of AS 08.63.100(a)(1), (2) and (3)(A),(B)
17 and (C) and has been approved by the board to take the marital and
18 family therapy examination.

19 (b) A person may practice under a temporary license until the
20 board issues the results of the first marital and family therapy
21 examination given after issuance of the person's temporary license and
22 either issues or denies a license under AS 08.63.100 to the person.

23 (c) If a licensee under this section does not take the next
24 marital and family therapy examination given after the issuance of the
25 temporary license, the board may renew the person's temporary license
26 until the board issues the results of the next marital and family
27 therapy exam if the licensee provides satisfactory proof to the board
28 that the licensee had good cause for not taking the exam.

29 (d) If a licensee under this section fails the marital and

1 family therapy examination, the board may not renew the person's
2 temporary license.

3 Sec. 08.63.130. LICENSURE BY CREDENTIALS. The board shall issue
4 a license to practice marital and family therapy to a person who

5 (1) is licensed or certified as a marital and family thera-
6 pist in another state that has requirements for the license or certif-
7 icate that are substantially equal to or greater than the requirements
8 of this state; and

9 (2) meets the requirements of AS 08.63.100(a)(1), (2), and
10 (3)(A).

11 ARTICLE 3. GENERAL PROVISIONS.

12 Sec. 08.63.140. FEES. The following fees shall be imposed under
13 this chapter:

- 14 (1) application\$ 25
15 (2) examination125
16 (3) credential review125
17 (4) license under AS 08.63.100200
18 (5) temporary license200
19 (6) license for supervised practice200
20 (7) renewal of license under AS 08.63.100200
21 (8) renewal of temporary license200

22 Sec. 08.63.150. PRIVILEGED COMMUNICATION. A person licensed
23 under this chapter may not reveal to another person a communication
24 made to the licensee by a client about a matter concerning which the
25 client has employed the licensee in a professional capacity. This
26 section does not apply to a case conference with other licensees or if
27 the client in writing authorizes the licensee to reveal a
28 communication.

29 Sec. 08.63.160. MALPRACTICE INSURANCE. Persons licensed under

1 this chapter shall maintain insurance against liability for negligence
2 in the practice of marital and family therapy.

3 Sec. 08.63.170. GROUNDS FOR IMPOSITION OF DISCIPLINARY SANC-
4 TIONS. After a hearing, the board may impose a disciplinary sanction
5 on a person licensed under this chapter when the board finds that the
6 person

7 (1) secured a license through deceit, fraud, or intentional
8 misrepresentation;

9 (2) engaged in deceit, fraud, or intentional misrepresenta-
10 tion in the course of providing professional services or engaging in
11 professional activities;

12 (3) advertised professional services in a false or mislead-
13 ing manner;

14 (4) has been convicted of a felony or other crime that
15 affects the person's ability to practice competently and safely;

16 (5) failed to comply with a provision of this chapter or a
17 regulation adopted under this chapter, or an order of the board;

18 (6) continued to practice after becoming unfit due to

19 (A) professional incompetence;

20 (B) addiction or severe dependency on alcohol or
21 another drug that impairs the person's ability to practice
22 safely;

23 (G) physical or mental disability;

24 (7) engaged in lewd or immoral conduct in connection with
25 the delivery of professional services to clients.

26 Sec. 08.63.180. DISCIPLINARY SANCTIONS. (a) When it finds that
27 a licensee has violated a provision of AS 08.63.170, the board may
28 impose the following sanctions singly or in combination:

29 (1) permanently revoke a license to practice;

1 (2) suspend a license for a determinate period of time;
2 (3) censure a licensee;
3 (4) issue a letter of reprimand;
4 (5) place a licensee on probationary status and require the
5 licensee to

6 (A) report regularly to the board on matters involving
7 the basis of probation;

8 (B) limit practice to prescribed areas;

9 (C) continue professional education until a satisfac-
10 tory degree of skill has been attained in those areas determined
11 by the board to need improvement;

12 (6) impose limitations or conditions on the practice of a
13 licensee.

14 (b) The board may withdraw a limitation, condition, or proba-
15 tionary status if it finds that the deficiency that required the sanc-
16 tion has been remedied.

17 (c) The board may summarily suspend a license before final
18 hearing or during the appeals process if the board finds that the
19 licensee poses a clear and immediate danger to the public welfare and
20 safety if the licensee continues to practice. A person whose license
21 is suspended under this section is entitled to a hearing by the board
22 no later than seven days after the effective date of the order. The
23 person may appeal the suspension after the hearing to the superior
24 court.

25 (d) The board may reinstate a license that has been suspended or
26 revoked if the board finds after a hearing that the applicant is able
27 to practice with reasonable skill and safety.

28 (e) The board shall seek consistency in the application of
29 disciplinary sanctions, and the board shall explain a significant

1 departure from prior decisions involving similar situations in its
2 findings of fact or orders.

3 Sec. 08.63.190. PROHIBITED ACTS. Unless a person is licensed
4 under this chapter, the person may not

5 (1) practice marital and family therapy;

6 (2) use a title indicating or representing that the person
7 practices or is licensed to practice marital and family therapy;

8
9 (3) advertise that the person practices marital and family
10 therapy.

11 Sec. 08.63.200. PENALTIES. A person who violates AS 08.63.190
12 is guilty of a class B misdemeanor.

13 Sec. 08.63.210. EXEMPTIONS. (a) This chapter does not apply to
14 a person who practices marital and family therapy consistent with the
15 accepted standards and code of ethics of the person's profession and
16 as part of the person's duties as

17 (1) a psychologist or psychological associate;

18 (2) a physician or psychiatrist;

19 (3) an attorney or judge;

20 (4) a member of the clergy;

21 (5) an employee of a governmental unit, educational insti-
22 tution, or nonprofit agency who is required to practice marital and
23 family therapy during the employment, if

24 (A) the employer maintains appropriate supervision of
25 the person's practice of marital and family therapy;

26 (B) the person practices marital and family therapy as
27 part of the duties for which the person is employed;

28 (C) the person practices marital and family therapy in
29 the facility where the person is employed or under the super-

1 vision of the governmental unit, educational institution, or
2 nonprofit agency where the person is employed; and

3 (D) the person does not render or offer to render
4 marital and family therapy services to the public for compensa-
5 tion in addition to the salary the person receives from the
6 governmental unit, educational institution, or nonprofit agency;

7 (6) a student, intern, or resident pursuing a course of
8 study approved by the board as appropriate training for a marital and
9 family therapy license, if the activities of the student, intern, or
10 resident constitute part of a supervised course of study and the
11 student, intern, or resident is designated by a title that indicates
12 that the person is training to be a marital and family therapist.

13 (b) A person exempt under this section may not use a title or
14 description stating or implying that the person is a marital and
15 family therapist licensed under this chapter.

16 Sec. 08.63.220. DEFINITIONS. In this chapter, unless the con-
17 text indicates otherwise,

18 (1) "advertise" includes issuing or causing to be distri-
19 buted a card, sign or device to a person, or causing, permitting or
20 allowing a sign or marking on or in a building or structure, or in a
21 newspaper, magazine, or directory, or on radio or television, or using
22 other means designed to secure public attention;

23 (2) "board" means the Board of Marital and Family Therapy;

24 (3) "course" means a class of at least three credit hours
25 in a graduate program at an accredited educational institution or an
26 institution approved by the board;

27 (4) "practice of marital and family therapy" means the
28 diagnosis and treatment of mental and emotional disorders that are
29 referenced in the standard diagnostic nomenclature for marital and

1 family therapy, whether cognitive, affective, or behavioral, within
2 the context of human relationships, particularly marital and family
3 systems; marital and family therapy involves

4 (A) the professional application of assessments and
5 treatments of psychotherapeutic services to individuals, couples,
6 and families for the purpose of treating the diagnosed emotional
7 and mental disorders;

8 (B) an applied understanding of the dynamics of mari-
9 tal and family interactions, along with the application of psy-
10 chotherapeutic and counseling techniques for the purpose of
11 resolving intrapersonal and interpersonal conflict and changing
12 perceptions, attitudes, and behaviors in the area of human rela-
13 tionships and family life;

14 (5) "supervision" means face-to-face consultation, direc-
15 tion, review, evaluation and assessment of the practice of the person
16 being supervised, including direct observation and the review of case
17 presentations, audio tapes and video tapes.

18 * Sec. 7. AS 09.55.560(1) is amended to read:

19 (1) "health care provider" means a chiropractor licensed
20 under AS 08.20; a dental hygienist licensed under AS 08.32; a dentist
21 licensed under AS 08.36; a marital and family therapist licensed under
22 AS 08.63; a nurse licensed under AS 08.68; a dispensing optician
23 licensed under AS 08.71; an optometrist licensed under AS 08.72; a
24 pharmacist licensed under AS 08.80; a physical therapist licensed
25 under AS 08.84; a physician licensed under AS 08.64; a podiatrist; a
26 psychologist and a psychological associate licensed under AS 08.86;
27 and a hospital as defined in AS 18.20.130, including a governmentally
28 owned or operated hospital; a corporate entity covered under AS 21.-
29 88.050(b)(12); and an employee of a health care provider acting within

1 the course and scope of employment;

2 * Sec. 8. AS 21.88.900(a)(9) is amended to read:

3 (9) "health care provider" means a chiropractor licensed
4 under AS 08.20; a dental hygienist licensed under AS 08.32; a dentist
5 licensed under AS 08.36; a marital and family therapist licensed under
6 AS 08.63; a nurse licensed under AS 08.68; a dispensing optician
7 licensed under AS 08.71; an optometrist licensed under AS 08.72; a
8 pharmacist licensed under AS 08.80; a physical therapist licensed
9 under AS 08.84; a physician licensed under AS 08.64; a podiatrist; a
10 psychologist and a psychological associate licensed under AS 08.86; a
11 hospital as defined in AS 18.20.130, including a governmentally owned
12 or operated hospital; a corporate entity covered under AS 21.88.-
13 050(b)(11); an employee of a health care provider acting within the
14 course and scope of employment;

15 * Sec. 9. AS 39.50.200(b) is amended by adding a new paragraph to read:

16 (48) Board of Marital and Family Therapy (AS 08.63);

17 * Sec. 10. AS 44.62.330(a) is amended by adding a new paragraph to
18 read:

19 (53) Board of Marital and Family Therapy (AS 08.63.010).

20 * Sec. 11. AS 47.17.070(6) is amended to read:

21 (6) "practitioner of the healing arts" includes chiroprac-
22 tors, dentists, health aides, nurses, optometrists, osteopaths, phys-
23 ical therapists, physicians, psychiatrists, psychologists, marital and
24 family therapists licensed under AS 08.63, religious healing practi-
25 tioners, and surgeons;

26 * Sec. 12. INITIAL APPOINTMENTS TO THE BOARD. (a) Notwithstanding
27 AS 08.63.030 as enacted by sec. 6 of this Act, the initial appointments of
28 members to the Board of Marital and Family Therapy shall be for the follow-
29 ing terms:

- 1 (1) two members for a term of two years;
- 2 (2) three members for a term of three years;
- 3 (3) two members for a term of four years.

4 (b) In making the initial appointments of professional members to the
5 Board of Marital and Family Therapy, the governor shall consider a person
6 licensed for the purpose of AS 08.63.020 if the person would be entitled to
7 a license under AS 08.63.100(a)(1) - (3)(A) - (B). The Board of Marital
8 and Family Therapy shall issue a license to practice marital and family
9 therapy to each professional member appointed under this section.

10 (c) A license issued under this chapter is subject to the same re-
11 newal requirements as a license issued under AS 08.63.100 as enacted by
12 sec. 6 of this Act.

13 * Sec. 13. (a) Notwithstanding AS 08.63.100 enacted by sec. 6 of this
14 Act the board shall issue a license to practice marital and family therapy
15 to a person who

16 (1) satisfies the requirements of AS 08.63.100(a)(1) - (3)(A)
17 enacted by sec. 6 of this Act;

18 (2) holds a master's or doctorate degree from an accredited
19 educational institution either in

20 (A) marital and family therapy; or

21 (B) an appropriate course of study approved by the board
22 and substantially equivalent to the following: three courses in
23 marital and family studies; three courses in marital and family ther-
24 apy; three courses in marital and family studies; three courses in
25 human development; one course in research; one course in professional
26 studies or professional law and ethics; and one year of supervised
27 clinical practice;

28 (3) either

29 (A) within three years of the person's application, has

1 practiced marital and family therapy including at least 1,500 hours of
2 direct clinical contact with couples and families, and has been super-
3 vised in the clinical contact for at least 200 hours, including 100
4 hours of individual supervision; or

5 (B) is a clinical member of the American Association of
6 Marriage and Family Therapy; and

7 (4) has practiced marital and family therapy as a resident of
8 the state immediately preceding the application.

9 (b) A license under this section is subject to the same renewal
10 requirements as a license issued under AS 08.63.100 as enacted by sec. 6 of
11 this Act.

12 (c) The board shall liberally construe the requirements of (a) of
13 this section for the purposes of licensing as a marital and family therapy
14 professional every person who merits licensing by virtue of the person's
15 education, training, and experience in the field of marital and family
16 therapy.

17 * Sec. 14. AS 08.63.150, enacted by sec. 6 of this Act has the effect
18 of amending Rule 504 of the Alaska Rules of Evidence by creating for a
19 marital and family therapist licensed under secs. 6, 12 or 13 of this Act,
20 a privilege to refuse to disclose information.

21 * Sec. 15. This Act takes effect July 1, 1985.