

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

HOUSE BILL NO. 6

BY HEALTH AND WELFARE COMMITTEE

AN ACT

1 RELATING TO SOCIAL WORK LICENSING; AMENDING SECTION 54-3202, IDAHO CODE,
2 TO REVISE DEFINITIONS; AMENDING SECTION 54-3206, IDAHO CODE, TO REVISE
3 PROVISIONS REGARDING LICENSING; AMENDING SECTION 54-3211, IDAHO CODE,
4 TO REVISE TERMINOLOGY; AND AMENDING SECTION 54-3214, IDAHO CODE, TO
5 REVISE PROVISIONS REGARDING REPRESENTATION TO THE PUBLIC.
6

7 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Idaho:

8 SECTION 1. That Section 54-3202, Idaho Code, be, and the same is hereby
9 amended to read as follows:

10 54-3202. DEFINITIONS. As used in this chapter, the terms defined in
11 this section shall have the following meaning, unless the context clearly
12 indicates another meaning.

13 (1) "Board" means the state board of social work examiners hereinafter
14 provided in this chapter.

15 (2) "Social work" is defined as the professional activity of helping
16 individuals, groups, families and communities enhance or restore their ca-
17 pacity for social functioning and creating societal conditions favorable to
18 this goal. Social work practice consists of the professional application of
19 social work values, principles and techniques. The practice of social work
20 requires knowledge of human development and behavior of social, economic and
21 cultural institutions and of the interaction of all these factors.

22 (3) "Clinical social worker" means an individual who is licensed un-
23 der this chapter and may be designated as a licensed clinical social worker
24 (LCSW).

25 (4) "Masters social worker" means an individual who is licensed un-
26 der this chapter and may be designated as a licensed masters social worker
27 (LMSW).

28 (5) "Bachelor social worker" means an individual who is licensed un-
29 der this chapter and may be designated as a licensed bachelor social worker
30 (LBSW).

31 SECTION 2. That Section 54-3206, Idaho Code, be, and the same is hereby
32 amended to read as follows:

33 54-3206. LICENSING -- QUALIFICATIONS. The board shall issue licenses
34 to qualified applicants who have passed an examination conducted or approved
35 by the board, are of good moral character and meet one (1) of the following:

36 (1) For a clinical social worker license, possess a master's degree or
37 doctorate in social work and two (2) years of postgraduate supervised clini-
38 cal experience approved by the board;

1 (2) For a ~~masters~~ social worker license, possess a master's degree or
2 doctorate in social work from a college or university approved by the board;
3 or

4 (3) For a bachelor social worker license, possess a baccalaureate de-
5 gree in social work from a college or university approved by the board.

6 SECTION 3. That Section 54-3211, Idaho Code, be, and the same is hereby
7 amended to read as follows:

8 54-3211. REFUSAL TO ISSUE, REFUSAL TO RENEW, SUSPENSION OR REVOCATION
9 OF LICENSE -- UNPROFESSIONAL CONDUCT. The board may refuse to issue, refuse
10 to renew, may suspend, or may revoke any license issued under this chapter,
11 or take other disciplinary action, upon proof, after a hearing, that the per-
12 son has engaged in "unprofessional conduct." The words "unprofessional con-
13 duct" as relating to persons licensed under this chapter are defined to in-
14 clude but are not limited to:

15 (1) Conviction of a felony, or of any offense involving moral turpi-
16 tude.

17 (2) Habitual drunkenness or addiction to habit-forming drugs, either
18 of which impairs the ability to perform his work without danger to himself or
19 the public he serves.

20 (3) Fraud or deceit in connection with services rendered as a bachelor
21 social worker, ~~masters~~ social worker or clinical social worker or in estab-
22 lishing qualifications for licensure under this chapter.

23 (4) Aiding or abetting any person not licensed under this chapter in the
24 practice of social work in the state of Idaho.

25 (5) Failing to be licensed or continuing to represent himself as li-
26 censed after the expiration of his license.

27 (6) Being found guilty of unprofessional conduct by the rules estab-
28 lished by the board.

29 (7) Having had a license or registration to practice social work re-
30 voked, suspended or otherwise disciplined in any state, territory or county.

31 (8) Failing to comply with a board order entered in a disciplinary ac-
32 tion.

33 (9) Failing to comply with any of the provisions of this chapter.

34 SECTION 4. That Section 54-3214, Idaho Code, be, and the same is hereby
35 amended to read as follows:

36 54-3214. LICENSE REQUIRED -- REPRESENTATION TO PUBLIC. (1) No person
37 may engage in the practice of social work unless ~~he~~ that person is licensed
38 under this chapter, or is a student under the supervision of a person who is
39 licensed under this chapter.

40 (2) No person shall be represented as a social worker by the use of ti-
41 tles "social worker," "bachelor social worker," "~~masters~~ social worker,"
42 "clinical social worker," "social caseworker," "social service worker,"
43 "social service director" or any other title or similar designation that
44 includes such words, or by adding the letters "LCSW," "SW," "LSW," "LBSW," or
45 "LMSW" unless licensed under the provisions of this chapter.

46 (3) Nothing within this chapter shall be construed to prevent any per-
47 son from doing work within the standards and ethics of their respective pro-

1 professions or calling, provided they do not hold themselves out to the public
2 by title or description of service as being engaged in social work practice.