

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

HOUSE BILL NO. 866

99TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVE FITZWATER (49).

1562H.011

D. ADAM CRUMBLISS, Chief Clerk

AN ACT

To repeal section 337.700, RSMo, and to enact in lieu thereof one new section relating to marital and family therapy.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the state of Missouri, as follows:

Section A. Section 337.700, RSMo, is repealed and one new section enacted in lieu thereof, to be known as section 337.700, to read as follows:

337.700. As used in sections 337.700 to 337.739, the following terms mean:

- 2 (1) "Committee", the state committee for marital and family therapists;
- 3 (2) "Department", the Missouri department of insurance, financial institutions and
4 professional registration;
- 5 (3) "Director", the director of the division of professional registration;
- 6 (4) "Division", the division of professional registration;
- 7 (5) "Fund", the marital and family therapists' fund created in section 337.712;
- 8 (6) "Licensed marital and family therapist", a person to whom a license has been issued
9 pursuant to the provisions of sections 337.700 to 337.739, whose license is in force and not
10 suspended or revoked;
- 11 (7) "Marital and family therapy", the use of scientific and applied marriage and family
12 theories, **psychotherapy** methods and procedures for the purpose of describing, diagnosing,
13 evaluating and modifying marital, family, and individual behavior within ~~[the context of marital
14 and family systems, including the context of marital formation and dissolution]~~ **a system. A
15 system can include, but is not limited to, the context of marital formation and dissolution,
16 social, educational, vocational, and other systems.** Marriage and family therapy is based on
17 **human development and** systems theories, marriage and family development, normal and

EXPLANATION — Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted from the law. Matter in **bold-face** type in the above bill is proposed language.

18 dysfunctional behavior, human sexuality [~~and psychotherapeutic, marital and family therapy~~
19 ~~theories and techniques and includes the use of marriage and family therapy theories and~~
20 ~~techniques]~~ in the diagnosis, evaluation, assessment and treatment of [~~intrapersonal or~~
21 ~~interpersonal dysfunctions within the context of marriage and family systems]~~ **mental health**
22 **and substance use disorders, partner relational problems, and other factors influencing**
23 **health status and contact with health services. Diagnosis of mental disorders includes, but**
24 **is not limited to, the current version of the Diagnostic Statistical Manual, which is the**
25 **current standard classification of mental disorders used by mental health professionals in**
26 **the United States and the International Classification of Diseases, which is the standard**
27 **diagnostic tool for epidemiology, health management, and clinical purposes.** Marriage and
28 family therapy may also include clinical research into more effective methods for the treatment
29 and prevention of the above-named conditions;

30 (8) "Practice of marital and family therapy", the rendering of professional marital and
31 family therapy services, **psychotherapy, and counseling interventions** to individuals, family
32 groups and marital pairs, singly or in groups, whether such services are offered directly to the
33 general public or through organizations, either public or private, for a fee, monetary or otherwise,
34 **to achieve more effective interpersonal and intrapersonal functioning;**

35 (9) "Provisional licensed marital and family therapist", any person who is a graduate of
36 an acceptable education institution described in subsection 1 of section 337.715 with at least a
37 master's degree in marital and family therapy, or its equivalent as defined by state committee
38 regulation, and meets all requirements of a licensed marital and family therapist other than the
39 supervised clinical experience set forth in section 337.715, and who is supervised by a person
40 who is qualified to be a supervisor, as defined by state committee regulation.

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