

Senate Bill No. 181—Senators Goicoechea,
Hardy, Pickard and Buck

Joint Sponsors: Assemblymen Titus, Hafen and Ellison

CHAPTER.....

AN ACT relating to alcohol and drug counselors; revising the requirements for the completion of postgraduate counseling for certain licenses for alcohol and drug counselors; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Legislative Counsel’s Digest:

Under existing law, licensure as a clinical alcohol and drug counselor by the Board of Examiners for Alcohol, Drug and Gambling Counselors requires the completion of: (1) a program approved by the Board that includes at least 2,000 hours of supervised, postgraduate counseling of persons with alcohol and other substance use disorders; and (2) a program approved by the Board that includes at least 2,000 hours of postgraduate counseling of persons with mental illness who also have alcohol and other substance use disorders that is supervised by an approved licensed clinical alcohol and drug counselor. (NRS 641C.330) **Section 1** of this bill consolidates such requirements into the completion of a single program consisting of 3,000 hours.

Section 1: (1) reduces the minimum required hours in such a program for postgraduate counseling of persons with mental illness who also have alcohol and other substance use disorders from 2,000 hours to 1,500 hours; (2) eliminates the requirement that such postgraduate counseling be supervised by a licensed clinical alcohol and drug counselor approved by the Board; (3) requires the program to include at least 1,000 hours of postgraduate counseling of persons with alcohol and other substance use disorders; and (4) requires the program to include at least 500 hours of additional postgraduate counseling of persons with mental illness who also have alcohol and other substance use disorders or persons with alcohol and other substance use disorders.

Under existing law, licensure as an alcohol and drug counselor by the Board requires 4,000 hours of supervised counseling of persons with alcohol and other substance use disorders. (NRS 641C.350) **Section 2** of this bill reduces the minimum requirement from 4,000 hours to 3,000 hours.

EXPLANATION – Matter in *bolded italics* is new; matter between brackets ~~omitted material~~ is material to be omitted.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, REPRESENTED IN
SENATE AND ASSEMBLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. NRS 641C.330 is hereby amended to read as follows:

641C.330 The Board shall issue a license as a clinical alcohol and drug counselor to:

1. A person who:
 - (a) Is not less than 21 years of age;



(b) Has received a master's degree or a doctoral degree from an accredited college or university in a field of social science approved by the Board that includes comprehensive course work in clinical mental health, including the diagnosis of mental health disorders;

(c) Has completed a program approved by the Board consisting of at least ~~[2,000]~~ **3,000** hours of supervised, postgraduate counseling of persons with alcohol and other substance use disorders ~~;~~

~~—(d) Has completed a program] and persons with mental illness who also have alcohol and other substance use disorders~~ that:

(1) ~~[Is approved by the Board; and~~

~~—(2)]~~ Consists of at least ~~[2,000]~~ **1,500** hours of postgraduate counseling of persons with mental illness who also have alcohol and other substance use disorders ~~[that is supervised by a licensed clinical alcohol and drug counselor who is approved by the Board;]~~ ;

~~(2) Consists of at least 1,000 hours of postgraduate counseling of persons with alcohol and other substance use disorders; and~~

~~(3) Consists of at least 500 hours of additional postgraduate counseling of persons with mental illness who also have alcohol and other substance use disorders or persons with alcohol and other substance use disorders;~~

~~[(e)]~~ (d) Passes the written and oral examinations prescribed by the Board pursuant to NRS 641C.290;

~~[(f)]~~ (e) Pays the fees required pursuant to NRS 641C.470; and

~~[(e)]~~ (f) Submits all information required to complete an application for a license.

2. A person who:

(a) Is not less than 21 years of age;

(b) Is:

(1) Licensed as a clinical social worker pursuant to chapter 641B of NRS;

(2) Licensed as a marriage and family therapist *or a clinical professional counselor* pursuant to chapter 641A of NRS; or

(3) A nurse who is licensed pursuant to chapter 632 of NRS and has received a master's degree or a doctoral degree from an accredited college or university;

(c) Has completed at least 6 months of supervised counseling of persons with alcohol and other substance use disorders approved by the Board;

(d) Passes the written and oral examinations prescribed by the Board pursuant to NRS 641C.290;

(e) Pays the fees required pursuant to NRS 641C.470; and



(f) Submits all the information required to complete an application for a license.

Sec. 2. NRS 641C.350 is hereby amended to read as follows:

641C.350 The Board shall issue a license as an alcohol and drug counselor to:

1. A person who:

(a) Is not less than 21 years of age;

(b) Has received a master's degree or a doctoral degree from an accredited college or university in a field of social science approved by the Board;

(c) Has completed ~~4,000~~ 3,000 hours of supervised counseling of persons with alcohol and other substance use disorders;

(d) Passes the written and oral examinations prescribed by the Board pursuant to NRS 641C.290;

(e) Pays the fees required pursuant to NRS 641C.470; and

(f) Submits all information required to complete an application for a license.

2. A person who:

(a) Is not less than 21 years of age;

(b) Is:

(1) Licensed as a clinical social worker pursuant to chapter 641B of NRS;

(2) Licensed as a clinical professional counselor pursuant to chapter 641A of NRS;

(3) Licensed as a marriage and family therapist pursuant to chapter 641A of NRS;

(4) A nurse who is licensed pursuant to chapter 632 of NRS and has received a master's degree or a doctoral degree from an accredited college or university; or

(5) Licensed as a clinical alcohol and drug counselor pursuant to this chapter;

(c) Has completed 1,000 hours of supervised counseling of persons with alcohol and other substance use disorders approved by the Board;

(d) Passes the written and oral examinations prescribed by the Board pursuant to NRS 641C.290;

(e) Pays the fees required pursuant to NRS 641C.470; and

(f) Submits all information required to complete an application for a license.

