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FIRST REPRINT

S.B. 181

SENATE BILL NO. 181—SENATORS GOICOECHEA,
HARDY, PICKARD AND BUCK

MARCH 8, 2021

JOINT SPONSORS: ASSEMBLYMEN TITUS, HAFEN AND ELLISON

Referred to Committee on Commerce and Labor

SUMMARY—Revises provisions relating to alcohol and drug counselors. (BDR 54-558)

FISCAL NOTE: Effect on Local Government: No.
Effect on the State: No.

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

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



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19 have alcohol and other substance use disorders or persons with alcohol and other
20 substance use disorders.

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

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

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

3 641C.330 The Board shall issue a license as a clinical alcohol
4 and drug counselor to:

5 1. A person who:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

34 2. A person who:

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



1 (b) Is:

2 (1) Licensed as a clinical social worker pursuant to chapter
3 641B of NRS;

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

18 641C.350 The Board shall issue a license as an alcohol and
19 drug counselor to:

20 1. A person who:

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

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

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

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

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

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

32 2. A person who:

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

34 (b) Is:

35 (1) Licensed as a clinical social worker pursuant to chapter
36 641B of NRS;

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

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

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

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



- 1 (c) Has completed 1,000 hours of supervised counseling of
- 2 persons with alcohol and other substance use disorders approved by
- 3 the Board;
- 4 (d) Passes the written and oral examinations prescribed by the
- 5 Board pursuant to NRS 641C.290;
- 6 (e) Pays the fees required pursuant to NRS 641C.470; and
- 7 (f) Submits all information required to complete an application
- 8 for a license.

