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**SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 2474**

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**State of Washington                      60th Legislature                      2008 Regular Session**

**By House Health Care & Wellness (originally sponsored by Representatives Cody, Wood, Morrell, Barlow, and Green)**

READ FIRST TIME 01/22/08.

1            AN ACT Relating to supervised experience requirements for social  
2 worker licenses; amending RCW 18.225.090; and creating a new section.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

4            **Sec. 1.** RCW 18.225.090 and 2006 c 69 s 1 are each amended to read  
5 as follows:

6            (1) The secretary shall issue a license to any applicant who  
7 demonstrates to the satisfaction of the secretary that the applicant  
8 meets the following education and experience requirements for the  
9 applicant's practice area.

10            (a) Licensed social work classifications:

11            (i) Licensed advanced social worker:

12            (A) Graduation from a master's or doctorate social work educational  
13 program accredited by the council on social work education and approved  
14 by the secretary based upon nationally recognized standards;

15            (B) Successful completion of an approved examination;

16            (C) Successful completion of a supervised experience requirement.

17 The supervised experience requirement consists of a minimum of three  
18 thousand two hundred hours with supervision by an approved supervisor

1 who has been licensed for at least two years. Of those supervised  
2 hours:

3 (I) At least ninety hours ((of supervision)) must include direct  
4 supervision as specified in this subsection by a licensed independent  
5 clinical social worker ((or)), a licensed advanced social worker ((who  
6 has been licensed or certified for at least two years)), or an equally  
7 qualified licensed mental health professional. Of those hours(( )) of  
8 directly supervised experience:

9 (1) At least fifty hours must include ((direct)) supervision by a  
10 licensed advanced social worker or licensed independent clinical social  
11 worker; the other forty hours may be ((with)) supervised by an equally  
12 qualified licensed mental health practitioner(( )); and

13 (2) At least forty hours must be in one-to-one supervision and  
14 fifty hours may be in one-to-one supervision or group supervision(( ));

15 (II) Distance supervision is limited to forty supervision  
16 hours(( )); and

17 (III) Eight hundred hours must be in direct client contact; and

18 (D) Successful completion of continuing education requirements of  
19 thirty-six hours, with six in professional ethics.

20 (ii) Licensed independent clinical social worker:

21 (A) Graduation from a master's or doctorate level social work  
22 educational program accredited by the council on social work education  
23 and approved by the secretary based upon nationally recognized  
24 standards;

25 (B) Successful completion of an approved examination;

26 (C) Successful completion of a supervised experience requirement.  
27 The supervised experience requirement consists of a minimum of four  
28 thousand hours of experience, ((of which)) over a three-year period,  
29 with supervision by an approved supervisor who has been licensed for at  
30 least two years and, as specified in this subsection, may be either a  
31 licensed independent clinical social worker who has had at least one  
32 year of experience in supervising the clinical social work of others or  
33 an equally qualified licensed mental health practitioner. Of those  
34 supervised hours:

35 (I) At least one thousand hours must be direct client contact((  
36 over a three-year period supervised by a licensed independent clinical  
37 social worker who has been licensed or certified for at least five

1 ~~years and who has had at least one year of experience in supervising~~  
2 ~~the clinical social work practice of others, with supervision of~~);  
3 (II) Hours of direct supervision must include:  
4 (1) At least one hundred thirty hours by a licensed mental health  
5 practitioner(~~(. Of the total supervision,~~));  
6 (2) At least seventy hours (~~(must be)) of supervision~~ with ((an))  
7 a licensed independent clinical social worker meeting the  
8 qualifications under this subsection (1)(a)(ii)(C); the other sixty  
9 hours may be (~~(with)) supervised by~~ an equally qualified licensed  
10 mental health practitioner(~~(-))~~); and  
11 (3) At least sixty hours must be in one-to-one supervision and  
12 seventy hours may be in one-to-one supervision or group  
13 supervision(~~(-))~~); and  
14 (III) Distance supervision is limited to sixty supervision hours;  
15 and  
16 (D) Successful completion of continuing education requirements of  
17 thirty-six hours, with six in professional ethics.  
18 (b) Licensed mental health counselor:  
19 (i) Graduation from a master's or doctoral level educational  
20 program in mental health counseling or a related discipline from a  
21 college or university approved by the secretary based upon nationally  
22 recognized standards;  
23 (ii) Successful completion of an approved examination;  
24 (iii) Successful completion of a supervised experience requirement.  
25 The experience requirement consists of a minimum of thirty-six months  
26 full-time counseling or three thousand hours of postgraduate mental  
27 health counseling under the supervision of a qualified licensed mental  
28 health counselor or equally qualified licensed mental health  
29 practitioner, in an approved setting. The three thousand hours of  
30 required experience includes a minimum of one hundred hours spent in  
31 immediate supervision with the qualified licensed mental health  
32 counselor, and includes a minimum of one thousand two hundred hours of  
33 direct counseling with individuals, couples, families, or groups; and  
34 (iv) Successful completion of continuing education requirements of  
35 thirty-six hours, with six in professional ethics.  
36 (c) Licensed marriage and family therapist:  
37 (i) Graduation from a master's degree or doctoral degree  
38 educational program in marriage and family therapy or graduation from

1 an educational program in an allied field equivalent to a master's  
2 degree or doctoral degree in marriage and family therapy approved by  
3 the secretary based upon nationally recognized standards;

4 (ii) Successful passage of an approved examination;

5 (iii) Successful completion of a supervised experience requirement.

6 The experience requirement consists of a minimum of two calendar years  
7 of full-time marriage and family therapy. Of the total supervision,  
8 one hundred hours must be with a licensed marriage and family therapist  
9 with at least five years' clinical experience; the other one hundred  
10 hours may be with an equally qualified licensed mental health  
11 practitioner. Total experience requirements include:

12 (A) A minimum of three thousand hours of experience, one thousand  
13 hours of which must be direct client contact; at least five hundred  
14 hours must be gained in diagnosing and treating couples and families;  
15 plus

16 (B) At least two hundred hours of qualified supervision with a  
17 supervisor. At least one hundred of the two hundred hours must be one-  
18 on-one supervision, and the remaining hours may be in one-on-one or  
19 group supervision.

20 Applicants who have completed a master's program accredited by the  
21 commission on accreditation for marriage and family therapy education  
22 of the American association for marriage and family therapy may be  
23 credited with five hundred hours of direct client contact and one  
24 hundred hours of formal meetings with an approved supervisor; and

25 (iv) Successful completion of continuing education requirements of  
26 thirty-six hours, with six in professional ethics.

27 (2) The department shall establish by rule what constitutes  
28 adequate proof of meeting the criteria.

29 (3) In addition, applicants shall be subject to the grounds for  
30 denial of a license or issuance of a conditional license under chapter  
31 18.130 RCW.

32 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** This act is remedial and curative in nature  
33 and applies retroactively to July 22, 2001.

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