
SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 6884

State of Washington 61st Legislature 2010 1st Special Session

By Senate Ways & Means (originally sponsored by Senators Hargrove and Shin)

READ FIRST TIME 03/20/10.

1 AN ACT Relating to the practice of counseling; amending RCW
2 18.19.020; and declaring an emergency.

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

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 18.19.020 and 2008 c 135 s 1 are each amended to read
5 as follows:

6 The definitions in this section apply throughout this chapter
7 unless the context clearly requires otherwise.

8 (1) "Agency" means (a) an agency or facility operated, licensed, or
9 certified by the state of Washington or (b) a county.

10 (2) "Agency affiliated counselor" means a person registered under
11 this chapter who is engaged in counseling and employed by an agency.
12 "Agency affiliated counselor" includes juvenile probation counselors
13 who are employees of the juvenile court under RCW 13.04.035 and
14 13.04.040 and juvenile court employees providing functional family
15 therapy, aggression replacement training, or other evidence-based
16 programs approved by the juvenile rehabilitation administration of the
17 department of social and health services.

18 (3) "Certified adviser" means a person certified under this chapter

1 who is engaged in private practice counseling to the extent authorized
2 in RCW 18.19.200.

3 (4) "Certified counselor" means a person certified under this
4 chapter who is engaged in private practice counseling to the extent
5 authorized in RCW 18.19.200.

6 (5) "Client" means an individual who receives or participates in
7 counseling or group counseling.

8 (6) "Counseling" means employing any therapeutic techniques,
9 including but not limited to social work, mental health counseling,
10 marriage and family therapy, and hypnotherapy, for a fee that offer,
11 assist or attempt to assist an individual or individuals in the
12 amelioration or adjustment of mental, emotional, or behavioral
13 problems, and includes therapeutic techniques to achieve sensitivity
14 and awareness of self and others and the development of human
15 potential. For the purposes of this chapter, nothing may be construed
16 to imply that the practice of hypnotherapy is necessarily limited to
17 counseling.

18 (7) "Counselor" means an individual, practitioner, therapist, or
19 analyst who engages in the practice of counseling to the public for a
20 fee, including for the purposes of this chapter, hypnotherapists.

21 (8) "Department" means the department of health.

22 (9) "Hypnotherapist" means a person registered under this chapter
23 who is practicing hypnosis as a modality.

24 (10) "Private practice counseling" means the practice of counseling
25 by a certified counselor or certified adviser as specified in RCW
26 18.19.200.

27 (11) "Psychotherapy" means the practice of counseling using
28 diagnosis of mental disorders according to the fourth edition of the
29 diagnostic and statistical manual of mental disorders, published in
30 1994, and the development of treatment plans for counseling based on
31 diagnosis of mental disorders in accordance with established practice
32 standards.

33 (12) "Secretary" means the secretary of the department or the
34 secretary's designee.

35 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** This act is necessary for the immediate
36 preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the

1 state government and its existing public institutions, and takes effect
2 immediately.

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