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HOUSE BILL 2220

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By Representatives Orwall, Bailey, Jinkins, Green, McCoy, Maxwell, Sells, Appleton, Ormsby, Wylie, Upthegrove, Hunt, Roberts, and McCune

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1 AN ACT Relating to requiring certain health professionals to  
2 complete continuing education in suicide assessment, treatment, and  
3 management; amending RCW 18.19.020, 18.19.090, 18.19.100, 18.205.020,  
4 18.205.090, 18.225.010, 18.225.090, 18.225.150, 18.83.010, 18.83.070,  
5 18.83.090, 18.79.020, 18.79.160, 18.79.210, 18.57.001, 18.57.020,  
6 18.57.050, 18.71.010, 18.71.050, and 18.71.080; adding a new section to  
7 chapter 18.205 RCW; creating new sections; and providing an effective  
8 date.

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

10 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** (1) The legislature finds that:

11 (a) According to the centers for disease control and prevention:

12 (i) In 2008, more than thirty-six thousand people died by suicide  
13 in the United States, making it the tenth leading cause of death  
14 nationally.

15 (ii) During 2007-2008, an estimated five hundred sixty-nine  
16 thousand people visited hospital emergency departments with self-  
17 inflicted injuries in the United States, seventy percent of whom had  
18 attempted suicide.

1 (iii) During 2008-2009, the average percentages of adults who  
2 thought, planned, or attempted suicide in Washington were higher than  
3 the national average.

4 (b) According to a national study, veterans face an elevated risk  
5 of suicide as compared to the general population, more than twice the  
6 risk among male veterans. Another study has indicated a positive  
7 correlation between posttraumatic stress disorder and suicide.

8 (i) Washington state is home to more than sixty thousand men and  
9 women who have deployed in support of the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan.

10 (ii) Research continues on how the effects of wartime service and  
11 injuries such as traumatic brain injury, posttraumatic stress disorder,  
12 or other service-related conditions, may increase the number of  
13 veterans who attempt suicide.

14 (iii) As more men and women separate from the military and  
15 transition back into civilian life, community mental health providers  
16 will become a vital resource to help these veterans and their families  
17 deal with issues that may arise.

18 (c) Suicide has an enormous impact on the family and friends of the  
19 victim as well as the community as a whole.

20 (d) Approximately ninety percent of people who die by suicide had  
21 a diagnosable psychiatric disorder at the time of death. Most suicide  
22 victims exhibit warning signs or behaviors prior to an attempt.

23 (e) Improved training and education in suicide assessment,  
24 treatment, and management has been recommended by a variety of  
25 organizations, including the United States department of health and  
26 human services and the institute of medicine.

27 (2) It is therefore the intent of the legislature to help lower the  
28 suicide rate in Washington by requiring certain mental health  
29 professionals to:

30 (a) Complete training in suicide assessment, treatment, and  
31 management prior to licensure; and

32 (b) Engage in continued training in suicide assessment, treatment,  
33 and management as part of their continuing education requirements.

34 (3) The legislature does not intend to expand or limit the existing  
35 scope of practice of any mental health professional affected by this  
36 act.

1       **Sec. 2.** RCW 18.19.020 and 2011 c 86 s 1 are each amended to read  
2 as follows:

3       The definitions in this section apply throughout this chapter  
4 unless the context clearly requires otherwise.

5       (1) "Agency" means (a) an agency or facility operated, licensed, or  
6 certified by the state of Washington; (b) a federally recognized Indian  
7 tribe located within the state; or (c) a county.

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

16       (3) "Certified adviser" means a person certified under this chapter  
17 who is engaged in private practice counseling to the extent authorized  
18 in RCW 18.19.200.

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

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

24       (6) "Counseling" means employing any therapeutic techniques,  
25 including but not limited to social work, mental health counseling,  
26 marriage and family therapy, and hypnotherapy, for a fee that offer,  
27 assist or attempt to assist an individual or individuals in the  
28 amelioration or adjustment of mental, emotional, or behavioral  
29 problems, and includes therapeutic techniques to achieve sensitivity  
30 and awareness of self and others and the development of human  
31 potential. For the purposes of this chapter, nothing may be construed  
32 to imply that the practice of hypnotherapy is necessarily limited to  
33 counseling.

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

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

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

3 (10) "Private practice counseling" means the practice of counseling  
4 by a certified counselor or certified adviser as specified in RCW  
5 18.19.200.

6 (11) "Psychotherapy" means the practice of counseling using  
7 diagnosis of mental disorders according to the fourth edition of the  
8 diagnostic and statistical manual of mental disorders, published in  
9 1994, and the development of treatment plans for counseling based on  
10 diagnosis of mental disorders in accordance with established practice  
11 standards.

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

14 (13) "Suicide assessment, treatment, and management training  
15 program" means:

16 (a) A training program in the assessment, treatment, and management  
17 of suicide of at least six hours in length that is listed on the best  
18 practices registry of the American foundation for suicide prevention  
19 and the suicide prevention resource center including, but not limited  
20 to: Applied suicide intervention skills training; assessment and  
21 management of suicide risk; recognizing and responding to suicide risk;  
22 or question, persuade, respond, and treat; or

23 (b) A training program approved by the secretary that is  
24 substantially equivalent to the training programs in (a) of this  
25 subsection.

26 **Sec. 3.** RCW 18.19.090 and 2008 c 135 s 8 are each amended to read  
27 as follows:

28 (1) Application for agency affiliated counselor, certified  
29 counselor, certified adviser, or hypnotherapist must be made on forms  
30 approved by the secretary. The secretary may require information  
31 necessary to determine whether applicants meet the qualifications for  
32 the credential and whether there are any grounds for denial of the  
33 credential, or for issuance of a conditional credential, under this  
34 chapter or chapter 18.130 RCW. The application for agency affiliated  
35 counselor, certified counselor, or certified adviser must include a  
36 description of the applicant's orientation, discipline, theory, or

1 technique. Each applicant shall pay a fee determined by the secretary  
2 as provided in RCW 43.70.250, which shall accompany the application.

3 (2) Applicants for agency affiliated counselor must provide  
4 satisfactory documentation that they are employed by an agency or have  
5 an offer of employment from an agency.

6 (3) At the time of application for initial certification,  
7 applicants for certified counselor prior to July 1, 2010, are required  
8 to:

9 (a) Have been registered for no less than five years at the time of  
10 application for an initial certification;

11 (b) Have held a valid, active registration that is in good standing  
12 and be in compliance with any disciplinary process and orders at the  
13 time of application for an initial certification;

14 (c) Show evidence of having completed coursework in risk  
15 assessment, ethics, appropriate screening and referral, and Washington  
16 state law and other subjects identified by the secretary;

17 (d) Pass an examination in risk assessment, ethics, appropriate  
18 screening and referral, and Washington state law, and other subjects as  
19 determined by the secretary; and

20 (e) Have a written consultation agreement with a credential holder  
21 who meets the qualifications established by the secretary.

22 (4) Unless eligible for certification under subsection (3) of this  
23 section, applicants for certified counselor or certified adviser are  
24 required to:

25 (a)(i) Have a bachelor's degree in a counseling-related field, if  
26 applying for certified counselor; or

27 (ii) Have an associate degree in a counseling-related field and a  
28 supervised internship, if applying for certified adviser;

29 (b) Pass an examination in risk assessment, ethics, appropriate  
30 screening and referral, and Washington state law, and other subjects as  
31 determined by the secretary; (~~and~~)

32 (c)(i)(A) Successfully complete at least fifteen hours of  
33 coursework in suicide assessment, treatment, and management while  
34 obtaining the degree required in (a) of this subsection; or

35 (B) Complete a suicide assessment, treatment, and management  
36 training program no more than six years prior to applying for  
37 certification under this section.

1        (ii) Nothing in this subsection (4)(c) may be interpreted to expand  
2 or limit the scope of practice of any profession regulated by this  
3 chapter; and

4        (d) Have a written supervisory agreement with a supervisor who  
5 meets the qualifications established by the secretary.

6        (5) Each applicant shall include payment of the fee determined by  
7 the secretary as provided in RCW 43.70.250.

8        **Sec. 4.** RCW 18.19.100 and 2008 c 135 s 10 are each amended to read  
9 as follows:

10        (1) The secretary shall establish administrative procedures,  
11 administrative requirements, continuing education, and fees for renewal  
12 of credentials as provided in RCW 43.70.250 and 43.70.280. When  
13 establishing continuing education requirements for agency affiliated  
14 counselors, the secretary shall consult with the appropriate state  
15 agency director responsible for licensing, certifying, or operating the  
16 relevant agency practice setting.

17        (2)(a) During the first full continuing education reporting period  
18 following the effective date of this section, a certified adviser or  
19 certified counselor who obtained his or her initial certification prior  
20 to the effective date of this section shall complete a suicide  
21 assessment, treatment, and management training program.

22        (b) All certified advisers and certified counselors shall complete  
23 a suicide assessment, treatment, and management training program every  
24 six years after:

25        (i) Initially completing a training program under (a) of this  
26 subsection; or

27        (ii) Obtaining initial certification on or after the effective date  
28 of this section.

29        (c) The hours spent completing a suicide assessment, treatment, and  
30 management training program under this section count toward meeting any  
31 continuing education requirements established under this chapter.

32        (d) Nothing in this subsection (2) may be interpreted to expand or  
33 limit the scope of practice of any profession regulated by this  
34 chapter.

35        **Sec. 5.** RCW 18.205.020 and 2008 c 135 s 15 are each amended to  
36 read as follows:

1 The definitions in this section apply throughout this chapter  
2 unless the context clearly requires otherwise.

3 (1) "Certification" means a voluntary process recognizing an  
4 individual who qualifies by examination and meets established  
5 educational prerequisites, and which protects the title of practice.

6 (2) "Certified chemical dependency professional" means an  
7 individual certified in chemical dependency counseling, under this  
8 chapter.

9 (3) "Certified chemical dependency professional trainee" means an  
10 individual working toward the education and experience requirements for  
11 certification as a chemical dependency professional.

12 (4) "Chemical dependency counseling" means employing the core  
13 competencies of chemical dependency counseling to assist or attempt to  
14 assist an alcohol or drug addicted person to develop and maintain  
15 abstinence from alcohol and other mood-altering drugs.

16 (5) "Committee" means the chemical dependency certification  
17 advisory committee established under this chapter.

18 (6) "Core competencies of chemical dependency counseling" means  
19 competency in the nationally recognized knowledge, skills, and  
20 attitudes of professional practice, including assessment and diagnosis  
21 of chemical dependency, chemical dependency treatment planning and  
22 referral, patient and family education in the disease of chemical  
23 dependency, individual and group counseling with alcoholic and drug  
24 addicted individuals, relapse prevention counseling, and case  
25 management, all oriented to assist alcoholic and drug addicted patients  
26 to achieve and maintain abstinence from mood-altering substances and  
27 develop independent support systems.

28 (7) "Department" means the department of health.

29 (8) "Health profession" means a profession providing health  
30 services regulated under the laws of this state.

31 (9) "Secretary" means the secretary of health or the secretary's  
32 designee.

33 (10) "Suicide assessment, treatment, and management training  
34 program" means:

35 (a) A training program in the assessment, treatment, and management  
36 of suicide of at least six hours in length that is listed on the best  
37 practices registry of the American foundation for suicide prevention  
38 and the suicide prevention resource center including, but not limited

1 to: Applied suicide intervention skills training; assessment and  
2 management of suicide risk; recognizing and responding to suicide risk;  
3 or question, persuade, respond, and treat; or

4 (b) A training program approved by the secretary that is  
5 substantially equivalent to the training programs in (a) of this  
6 subsection.

7 **Sec. 6.** RCW 18.205.090 and 2001 c 251 s 30 are each amended to  
8 read as follows:

9 (1) The secretary shall issue a certificate to any applicant who  
10 demonstrates to the secretary's satisfaction that the following  
11 requirements have been met:

12 (a) Completion of an educational program approved by the secretary  
13 or successful completion of alternate training that meets established  
14 criteria;

15 (b) Successful completion of an approved examination, based on core  
16 competencies of chemical dependency counseling; ~~((and))~~

17 (c) Successful completion of an experience requirement that  
18 establishes fewer hours of experience for applicants with higher levels  
19 of relevant education. In meeting any experience requirement  
20 established under this subsection, the secretary may not require more  
21 than one thousand five hundred hours of experience in chemical  
22 dependency counseling for applicants who are licensed under chapter  
23 18.83 RCW or under chapter 18.79 RCW as advanced registered nurse  
24 practitioners; and

25 (d)(i)(A) Successful completion of at least fifteen hours of  
26 coursework in suicide assessment, treatment, and management as part of  
27 his or her educational program or alternate training; or

28 (B) Completion of a suicide assessment, treatment, and management  
29 training program no more than six years prior to applying for  
30 certification under this section.

31 (ii) Nothing in this subsection (1)(d) may be interpreted to expand  
32 or limit the scope of practice of any profession regulated by this  
33 chapter.

34 (2) The secretary shall establish by rule what constitutes adequate  
35 proof of meeting the criteria.

36 (3) Applicants are subject to the grounds for denial of a



1 certificate or issuance of a conditional certificate under chapter  
2 18.130 RCW.

3 (4) Certified chemical dependency professionals shall not be  
4 required to be registered under chapter 18.19 RCW or licensed under  
5 chapter 18.225 RCW.

6 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 7.** A new section is added to chapter 18.205 RCW  
7 to read as follows:

8 (1) During the first full continuing competency reporting period  
9 following the effective date of this section, a certified chemical  
10 dependency professional who obtained his or her initial certification  
11 prior to the effective date of this section shall complete a suicide  
12 assessment, treatment, and management training program.

13 (2) All certified chemical dependency professionals shall complete  
14 a suicide assessment, treatment, and management training program every  
15 six years after:

16 (a) Initially completing a training program under subsection (1) of  
17 this section; or

18 (b) Obtaining initial certification on or after the effective date  
19 of this section.

20 (3) The hours spent completing a suicide assessment, treatment, and  
21 management training program under this section count toward meeting any  
22 continuing competency requirements established under this chapter.

23 (4) Nothing in this section may be interpreted to expand or limit  
24 the scope of practice of any profession regulated by this chapter.

25 **Sec. 8.** RCW 18.225.010 and 2008 c 135 s 11 are each amended to  
26 read as follows:

27 The definitions in this section apply throughout this chapter  
28 unless the context clearly requires otherwise.

29 (1) "Advanced social work" means the application of social work  
30 theory and methods including emotional and biopsychosocial assessment,  
31 psychotherapy under the supervision of a licensed independent clinical  
32 social worker, case management, consultation, advocacy, counseling, and  
33 community organization.

34 (2) "Applicant" means a person who completes the required  
35 application, pays the required fee, is at least eighteen years of age,

1 and meets any background check requirements and uniform disciplinary  
2 act requirements.

3 (3) "Associate" means a prelicensure candidate who has a graduate  
4 degree in a mental health field under RCW 18.225.090 and is gaining the  
5 supervision and supervised experience necessary to become a licensed  
6 independent clinical social worker, a licensed advanced social worker,  
7 a licensed mental health counselor, or a licensed marriage and family  
8 therapist.

9 (4) "Committee" means the Washington state mental health  
10 counselors, marriage and family therapists, and social workers advisory  
11 committee.

12 (5) "Department" means the department of health.

13 (6) "Disciplining authority" means the department.

14 (7) "Independent clinical social work" means the diagnosis and  
15 treatment of emotional and mental disorders based on knowledge of human  
16 development, the causation and treatment of psychopathology,  
17 psychotherapeutic treatment practices, and social work practice as  
18 defined in advanced social work. Treatment modalities include but are  
19 not limited to diagnosis and treatment of individuals, couples,  
20 families, groups, or organizations.

21 (8) "Marriage and family therapy" means the diagnosis and treatment  
22 of mental and emotional disorders, whether cognitive, affective, or  
23 behavioral, within the context of relationships, including marriage and  
24 family systems. Marriage and family therapy involves the professional  
25 application of psychotherapeutic and family systems theories and  
26 techniques in the delivery of services to individuals, couples, and  
27 families for the purpose of treating such diagnosed nervous and mental  
28 disorders. The practice of marriage and family therapy means the  
29 rendering of professional marriage and family therapy services to  
30 individuals, couples, and families, singly or in groups, whether such  
31 services are offered directly to the general public or through  
32 organizations, either public or private, for a fee, monetary or  
33 otherwise.

34 (9) "Mental health counseling" means the application of principles  
35 of human development, learning theory, psychotherapy, group dynamics,  
36 and etiology of mental illness and dysfunctional behavior to  
37 individuals, couples, families, groups, and organizations, for the  
38 purpose of treatment of mental disorders and promoting optimal mental

1 health and functionality. Mental health counseling also includes, but  
2 is not limited to, the assessment, diagnosis, and treatment of mental  
3 and emotional disorders, as well as the application of a wellness model  
4 of mental health.

5 (10) "Secretary" means the secretary of health or the secretary's  
6 designee.

7 (11) "Suicide assessment, treatment, and management training  
8 program" means:

9 (a) A training program in the assessment, treatment, and management  
10 of suicide of at least six hours in length that is listed on the best  
11 practices registry of the American foundation for suicide prevention  
12 and the suicide prevention resource center including, but not limited  
13 to: Applied suicide intervention skills training; assessment and  
14 management of suicide risk; recognizing and responding to suicide risk;  
15 or question, persuade, respond, and treat; or

16 (b) A training program approved by the secretary that is  
17 substantially equivalent to the training programs in (a) of this  
18 subsection.

19 **Sec. 9.** RCW 18.225.090 and 2008 c 141 s 1 are each amended to read  
20 as follows:

21 (1) The secretary shall issue a license to any applicant who  
22 demonstrates to the satisfaction of the secretary that the applicant  
23 meets the following education and experience requirements for the  
24 applicant's practice area.

25 (a) Licensed social work classifications:

26 (i) Licensed advanced social worker:

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

30 (B) Successful completion of an approved examination;

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

32 The supervised experience requirement consists of a minimum of three  
33 thousand two hundred hours with supervision by an approved supervisor  
34 who has been licensed for at least two years. Of those supervised  
35 hours:

36 (I) At least ninety hours must include direct supervision as  
37 specified in this subsection by a licensed independent clinical social

1 worker, a licensed advanced social worker, or an equally qualified  
2 licensed mental health professional. Of those hours of directly  
3 supervised experience:

4 (1) At least fifty hours must include supervision by a licensed  
5 advanced social worker or licensed independent clinical social worker;  
6 the other forty hours may be supervised by an equally qualified  
7 licensed mental health practitioner; and

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

10 (II) Distance supervision is limited to forty supervision hours;  
11 and

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

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

15 (ii) Licensed independent clinical social worker:

16 (A) Graduation from a master's or doctorate level social work  
17 educational program accredited by the council on social work education  
18 and approved by the secretary based upon nationally recognized  
19 standards;

20 (B) Successful completion of an approved examination;

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

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

30 (I) At least one thousand hours must be direct client contact;

31 (II) Hours of direct supervision must include:

32 (1) At least one hundred thirty hours by a licensed mental health  
33 practitioner;

34 (2) At least seventy hours of supervision with a licensed  
35 independent clinical social worker meeting the qualifications under  
36 this subsection (1)(a)(ii)(C); the other sixty hours may be supervised  
37 by an equally qualified licensed mental health practitioner; and

1 (3) At least sixty hours must be in one-to-one supervision and  
2 seventy hours may be in one-to-one supervision or group supervision;  
3 and

4 (III) Distance supervision is limited to sixty supervision hours;  
5 and

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

8 (b) Licensed mental health counselor:

9 (i) Graduation from a master's or doctoral level educational  
10 program in mental health counseling or a related discipline from a  
11 college or university approved by the secretary based upon nationally  
12 recognized standards;

13 (ii) Successful completion of an approved examination;

14 (iii) Successful completion of a supervised experience requirement.  
15 The experience requirement consists of a minimum of thirty-six months  
16 full-time counseling or three thousand hours of postgraduate mental  
17 health counseling under the supervision of a qualified licensed mental  
18 health counselor or equally qualified licensed mental health  
19 practitioner, in an approved setting. The three thousand hours of  
20 required experience includes a minimum of one hundred hours spent in  
21 immediate supervision with the qualified licensed mental health  
22 counselor, and includes a minimum of one thousand two hundred hours of  
23 direct counseling with individuals, couples, families, or groups; and

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

26 (c) Licensed marriage and family therapist:

27 (i) Graduation from a master's degree or doctoral degree  
28 educational program in marriage and family therapy or graduation from  
29 an educational program in an allied field equivalent to a master's  
30 degree or doctoral degree in marriage and family therapy approved by  
31 the secretary based upon nationally recognized standards;

32 (ii) Successful passage of an approved examination;

33 (iii) Successful completion of a supervised experience requirement.  
34 The experience requirement consists of a minimum of two calendar years  
35 of full-time marriage and family therapy. Of the total supervision,  
36 one hundred hours must be with a licensed marriage and family therapist  
37 with at least five years' clinical experience; the other one hundred

1 hours may be with an equally qualified licensed mental health  
2 practitioner. Total experience requirements include:

3 (A) A minimum of three thousand hours of experience, one thousand  
4 hours of which must be direct client contact; at least five hundred  
5 hours must be gained in diagnosing and treating couples and families;  
6 plus

7 (B) At least two hundred hours of qualified supervision with a  
8 supervisor. At least one hundred of the two hundred hours must be one-  
9 on-one supervision, and the remaining hours may be in one-on-one or  
10 group supervision.

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

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

18 (2)(a) Every applicant under this section shall demonstrate to the  
19 satisfaction of the secretary:

20 (i) Successful completion of at least fifteen hours of coursework  
21 in suicide assessment, treatment, and management as part of his or her  
22 educational program or alternate training; or

23 (ii) Completion of a suicide assessment, treatment, and management  
24 training program no more than six years prior to applying for licensure  
25 under this section.

26 (b) Nothing in this subsection (2) may be interpreted to expand or  
27 limit the scope of practice of any profession regulated by this  
28 chapter.

29 (3) The department shall establish by rule what constitutes  
30 adequate proof of meeting the criteria.

31 ~~((+3))~~ (4) In addition, applicants shall be subject to the grounds  
32 for denial of a license or issuance of a conditional license under  
33 chapter 18.130 RCW.

34 **Sec. 10.** RCW 18.225.150 and 2008 c 135 s 14 are each amended to  
35 read as follows:

36 (1) The secretary shall establish by rule the procedural  
37 requirements and fees for renewal of a license or associate license.

1 Failure to renew shall invalidate the license or associate license and  
2 all privileges granted by the license. (~~If an associate license has~~  
3 ~~lapsed, the person shall submit an updated declaration, in accordance~~  
4 ~~with rules adopted by the department, that the person is working toward~~  
5 ~~full licensure.~~) If a license has lapsed for a period longer than  
6 three years, the person shall demonstrate competence to the  
7 satisfaction of the secretary by taking continuing education courses,  
8 or meeting other standards determined by the secretary. If an  
9 associate license has lapsed, the person shall submit an updated  
10 declaration, in accordance with rules adopted by the department, that  
11 the person is working toward full licensure.

12 (2)(a) During the first full continuing education reporting period  
13 following the effective date of this section, a person licensed under  
14 this chapter who obtained his or her initial license prior to the  
15 effective date of this section shall complete a suicide assessment,  
16 treatment, and management training program.

17 (b) All persons licensed under this chapter shall complete a  
18 suicide assessment, treatment, and management training program every  
19 six years after:

20 (i) Initially completing a training program under (a) of this  
21 subsection; or

22 (ii) Obtaining an initial license on or after the effective date of  
23 this section.

24 (c) This subsection (2) does not apply to associate licenses.

25 (d) The hours spent completing a suicide assessment, treatment, and  
26 management training program under this section shall count toward  
27 meeting any continuing education requirements established under this  
28 chapter.

29 (e) Nothing in this subsection (2) may be interpreted to expand or  
30 limit the scope of practice of any profession regulated by this  
31 chapter.

32 **Sec. 11.** RCW 18.83.010 and 1994 c 35 s 1 are each amended to read  
33 as follows:

34 When used in this chapter:

35 (1) "Board" means the examining board of psychology.

36 (2) "Department" means the department of health.

1       (3) The "practice of psychology" means the observation, evaluation,  
2 interpretation, and modification of human behavior by the application  
3 of psychological principles, methods, and procedures for the purposes  
4 of preventing or eliminating symptomatic or maladaptive behavior and  
5 promoting mental and behavioral health. It includes, but is not  
6 limited to, providing the following services to individuals, families,  
7 groups, organizations, and the public, whether or not payment is  
8 received for services rendered:

9       (a) Psychological measurement, assessment, and evaluation by means  
10 of psychological, neuropsychological, and psychoeducational testing;

11       (b) Diagnosis and treatment of mental, emotional, and behavioral  
12 disorders, and psychological aspects of illness, injury, and  
13 disability; and

14       (c) Counseling and guidance, psychotherapeutic techniques,  
15 remediation, health promotion, and consultation within the context of  
16 established psychological principles and theories.

17       This definition does not include the teaching of principles of  
18 psychology for accredited educational institutions, or the conduct of  
19 research in problems of human or animal behavior.

20       Nothing in this definition shall be construed as permitting the  
21 administration or prescribing of drugs or in any way infringing upon  
22 the practice of medicine and surgery as defined in chapter 18.71 RCW.

23       ~~((+2))~~ (4) "Secretary" means the secretary of health.

24       ~~((-3) "Board" means the examining board of psychology.~~

25       ~~(4) "Department" means the department of health.)~~ (5) "Suicide  
26 assessment, treatment, and management training program" means:

27       (a) A training program in the assessment, treatment, and management  
28 of suicide of at least six hours in length that is listed on the best  
29 practices registry of the American foundation for suicide prevention  
30 and the suicide prevention resource center including, but not limited  
31 to: Applied suicide intervention skills training; assessment and  
32 management of suicide risk; recognizing and responding to suicide risk;  
33 or question, persuade, respond, and treat; or

34       (b) A training program approved by the board that is substantially  
35 equivalent to the training programs in (a) of this subsection.

36       **Sec. 12.** RCW 18.83.070 and 2004 c 262 s 9 are each amended to read  
37 as follows:



1 An applicant for a license as "psychologist" must submit proof to  
2 the board that:

3 (1) The applicant is of good moral character.

4 (2) The applicant holds a doctoral degree from a regionally  
5 accredited institution, obtained from an integrated program of graduate  
6 study in psychology as defined by rules of the board.

7 (3) The applicant has had no fewer than two years of supervised  
8 experience. The board shall adopt rules defining the circumstances  
9 under which supervised experience shall qualify the candidate for  
10 licensure.

11 (4) The applicant has passed the examination or examinations  
12 required by the board.

13 (5)(a) The applicant has:

14 (i) Successfully completed at least fifteen hours of coursework in  
15 suicide assessment, treatment, and management as part of his or her  
16 doctoral program; or

17 (ii) Completed a suicide assessment, treatment, and management  
18 training program no more than six years prior to applying for licensure  
19 under this section.

20 (b) Nothing in this subsection (5) may be interpreted to expand or  
21 limit the scope of practice of any profession regulated by this  
22 chapter.

23 Any person holding a valid license to practice psychology in the  
24 state of Washington on June 7, 1984, shall be considered licensed under  
25 this chapter.

26 **Sec. 13.** RCW 18.83.090 and 2009 c 492 s 6 are each amended to read  
27 as follows:

28 (1) The board shall establish rules governing mandatory continuing  
29 education requirements which shall be met by any psychologist applying  
30 for a license renewal.

31 (2) The office of crime victims advocacy shall supply the board  
32 with information on methods of recognizing victims of human  
33 trafficking, what services are available for these victims, and where  
34 to report potential trafficking situations. The information supplied  
35 must be culturally sensitive and must include information relating to  
36 minor victims. The board shall disseminate this information to  
37 licensees (~~by~~): By providing the information on the board's web

1 site; including the information in newsletters; by holding trainings at  
2 meetings attended by organization members; or through another  
3 distribution method determined by the board. The board shall report to  
4 the office of crime victims advocacy on the method or methods it uses  
5 to distribute information under this subsection.

6 (3) Administrative procedures, administrative requirements, and  
7 fees for renewal and reissue of licenses shall be established as  
8 provided in RCW 43.70.250 and 43.70.280.

9 (4)(a) During the first full continuing education reporting period  
10 following the effective date of this section, a licensed psychologist  
11 who obtained his or her initial certification prior to the effective  
12 date of this section shall complete a suicide assessment, treatment,  
13 and management training program.

14 (b) All licensed psychologists shall complete a suicide assessment,  
15 treatment, and management training program every six years after:

16 (i) Initially completing a training program under (a) of this  
17 subsection; or

18 (ii) Obtaining an initial license on or after the effective date of  
19 this section.

20 (c) The hours spent completing a suicide assessment, treatment, and  
21 management training program under this section count toward meeting any  
22 continuing education requirements established under this chapter.

23 (d) Nothing in this subsection (4) may be interpreted to expand or  
24 limit the scope of practice of any profession regulated by this  
25 chapter.

26 **Sec. 14.** RCW 18.79.020 and 1994 sp.s. c 9 s 402 are each amended  
27 to read as follows:

28 Unless a different meaning is plainly required by the context, the  
29 definitions set forth in this section apply throughout this chapter.

30 (1) "Commission" means the Washington state nursing care quality  
31 assurance commission.

32 (2) "Department" means the department of health.

33 ~~(3) ("Secretary" means the secretary of health or the secretary's~~  
34 ~~designee.~~

35 ~~(4))~~ "Diagnosis," in the context of nursing practice, means the  
36 identification of, and discrimination between, the person's physical

1 and psychosocial signs and symptoms that are essential to effective  
2 execution and management of the nursing care regimen.

3 ~~((+5))~~ (4) "Diploma" means written official verification of  
4 completion of an approved nursing education program.

5 ~~((+6))~~ (5) "Nurse" or "nursing," unless otherwise specified as a  
6 practical nurse or practical nursing, means a registered nurse or  
7 registered nursing.

8 (6) "Secretary" means the secretary of health or the secretary's  
9 designee.

10 (7) "Suicide assessment, treatment, and management training  
11 program" means:

12 (a) A training program in the assessment, treatment, and management  
13 of suicide of at least six hours in length that is listed on the best  
14 practices registry of the American foundation for suicide prevention  
15 and the suicide prevention resource center including, but not limited  
16 to: Applied suicide intervention skills training; assessment and  
17 management of suicide risk; recognizing and responding to suicide risk;  
18 or question, persuade, respond, and treat; or

19 (b) A training program approved by the commission that is  
20 substantially equivalent to the training programs in (a) of this  
21 subsection.

22 **Sec. 15.** RCW 18.79.160 and 2004 c 262 s 6 are each amended to read  
23 as follows:

24 (1) An applicant for a license to practice as a registered nurse  
25 shall submit to the commission:

26 (a) An attested written application on a department form;

27 (b) An official transcript demonstrating graduation and successful  
28 completion of an approved program of nursing; and

29 (c) Any other official records specified by the commission.

30 (2) An applicant for a license to practice as an advanced  
31 registered nurse practitioner shall submit to the commission:

32 (a) An attested written application on a department form;

33 (b) An official transcript demonstrating graduation and successful  
34 completion of an advanced registered nurse practitioner program meeting  
35 criteria established by the commission; ~~((and))~~

36 (c)(i) For an applicant who intends to practice as a psychiatric

1 advanced registered nurse practitioner, proof acceptable to the  
2 commission that he or she has:

3 (A) Successfully completed at least fifteen hours of coursework in  
4 suicide assessment, treatment, and management at his or her advanced  
5 registered nurse practitioner program; or

6 (B) Completed a suicide assessment, treatment, and management  
7 training program no more than six years prior to applying for licensure  
8 under this section.

9 (ii) Nothing in this subsection (2)(c) may be interpreted to expand  
10 or limit the scope of practice of any profession regulated by this  
11 chapter; and

12 (d) Any other official records specified by the commission.

13 (3) An applicant for a license to practice as a licensed practical  
14 nurse shall submit to the commission:

15 (a) An attested written application on a department form;

16 (b) Written official evidence that the applicant is over the age of  
17 eighteen;

18 (c) An official transcript demonstrating graduation and successful  
19 completion of an approved practical nursing program, or its equivalent;  
20 and

21 (d) Any other official records specified by the commission.

22 (4) At the time of submission of the application, the applicant for  
23 a license to practice as a registered nurse, advanced registered nurse  
24 practitioner, or licensed practical nurse must not be in violation of  
25 chapter 18.130 RCW or this chapter.

26 (5) The commission shall establish by rule the criteria for  
27 evaluating the education of all applicants.

28 **Sec. 16.** RCW 18.79.210 and 1996 c 191 s 63 are each amended to  
29 read as follows:

30 (1) A license issued under this chapter must be renewed, except as  
31 provided in this chapter. The licensee shall comply with  
32 administrative procedures, administrative requirements, and fees as  
33 determined under RCW 43.70.250 and 43.70.280.

34 (2) The commission shall request advanced registered nurse  
35 practitioners to inform the commission whether they practice as  
36 psychiatric advanced registered nurse practitioners at the time of  
37 license renewal.

1       (3)(a) During the first full continuing education reporting period  
2 following the effective date of this section, an advanced registered  
3 nurse practitioner who identifies himself or herself as a psychiatric  
4 advanced registered nurse practitioner under subsection (2) of this  
5 section and who obtained his or her initial licensure prior to the  
6 effective date of this section shall complete a suicide assessment,  
7 treatment, and management training program.

8       (b) All advanced registered nurse practitioners who have identified  
9 themselves as psychiatric advanced registered nurse practitioners under  
10 subsection (2) of this section shall complete a suicide assessment,  
11 treatment, and management training program every six years after:

12       (i) Initially completing a training program under (a) of this  
13 subsection; or

14       (ii) Obtaining an initial license on or after the effective date of  
15 this section.

16       (c) The hours spent completing a suicide assessment, treatment, and  
17 management training program under this section count toward meeting any  
18 continuing education requirements established under this chapter.

19       (d) Nothing in this subsection (3) may be interpreted to expand or  
20 limit the scope of practice of any profession regulated by this  
21 chapter.

22       **Sec. 17.** RCW 18.57.001 and 1996 c 178 s 2 are each amended to read  
23 as follows:

24       As used in this chapter:

25       (1) "Board" means the Washington state board of osteopathic  
26 medicine and surgery;

27       (2) "Department" means the department of health;

28       (3) (~~"Secretary" means the secretary of health; and~~

29 ~~+4+)) "Osteopathic medicine and surgery" means the use of any and~~  
30 all methods in the treatment of disease, injuries, deformities, and all  
31 other physical and mental conditions in and of human beings, including  
32 the use of osteopathic manipulative therapy.

33       (5) "Secretary" means the secretary of health; and

34       (6) "Suicide assessment, treatment, and management training  
35 program" means:

36       (a) A training program in the assessment, treatment, and management  
37 of suicide of at least six hours in length that is listed on the best

1 practices registry of the American foundation for suicide prevention  
2 and the suicide prevention resource center including, but not limited  
3 to: Applied suicide intervention skills training; assessment and  
4 management of suicide risk; recognizing and responding to suicide risk;  
5 or question, persuade, respond, and treat; or

6 (b) A training program approved by the board that is substantially  
7 equivalent to the training programs in (a) of this subsection.

8 **Sec. 18.** RCW 18.57.020 and 1991 c 160 s 3 are each amended to read  
9 as follows:

10 (1) A license shall be issued by the secretary authorizing the  
11 holder to practice osteopathic medicine and surgery. In order to  
12 procure a license to practice osteopathic medicine and surgery, the  
13 applicant must provide the board evidence that a diploma has been  
14 issued to the applicant by an accredited school of osteopathic medicine  
15 and surgery, approved by the board. The application shall be made upon  
16 a form prepared by the secretary, with the approval of the board, and  
17 it shall contain such information concerning said osteopathic medical  
18 instruction and the preliminary education of the applicant as the board  
19 may by rule provide. Applicants who have failed to meet the  
20 requirements must be rejected.

21 (2) An applicant for a license to practice osteopathic medicine and  
22 surgery must furnish evidence satisfactory to the board that he or she  
23 has served for not less than one year in a postgraduate training  
24 program approved by the board.

25 (3) In addition, the applicant may be required to furnish evidence  
26 satisfactory to the board that he or she is physically and mentally  
27 capable of safely carrying on the practice of osteopathic medicine and  
28 surgery. The board may require any applicant to submit to such  
29 examination or examinations as it deems necessary to determine an  
30 applicant's physical and/or mental capability to safely practice  
31 osteopathic medicine and surgery. The applicant shall also show that  
32 he or she has not been guilty of any conduct which would constitute  
33 grounds for denial, suspension, or revocation of such license under the  
34 laws of the state of Washington.

35 (4) An applicant who intends to practice psychiatry is required to  
36 have successfully completed at least fifteen hours of coursework in  
37 suicide assessment, treatment, and management while obtaining his or

1 her diploma from an accredited school of osteopathic medicine and  
2 surgery or to have completed a suicide assessment, treatment, and  
3 management training program no more than six years prior to applying  
4 for licensure under this section. Nothing in this subsection (4) may  
5 be interpreted to expand or limit the scope of practice of any  
6 profession regulated by this chapter.

7 (5) Nothing in this section shall be construed as prohibiting the  
8 board from requiring such additional information from applicants as it  
9 deems necessary.

10 (6) Nothing in this chapter shall be construed to require any  
11 applicant for licensure, or any licensee, as a requisite of retaining  
12 or renewing licensure under this chapter, to be a member of any  
13 political and/or professional organization.

14 **Sec. 19.** RCW 18.57.050 and 1996 c 191 s 36 are each amended to  
15 read as follows:

16 (1) The board may establish rules and regulations governing  
17 mandatory continuing education requirements which shall be met by  
18 physicians applying for renewal of licenses.

19 (2) The board shall request licensees to inform the board whether  
20 they practice as psychiatrists at the time of license renewal.

21 (3) Administrative procedures, administrative requirements, and  
22 fees for applications and renewals shall be established as provided in  
23 RCW 43.70.250 and 43.70.280. The board shall determine prerequisites  
24 for relicensing.

25 (4)(a) During the first full continuing education reporting period  
26 following the effective date of this section, an osteopathic physician  
27 and surgeon who identifies himself or herself as a psychiatrist under  
28 subsection (2) of this section and who obtained his or her initial  
29 licensure prior to the effective date of this section shall complete a  
30 suicide assessment, treatment, and management training program.

31 (b) All osteopathic physicians and surgeons who have identified  
32 themselves as psychiatrists under subsection (2) of this section shall  
33 complete a suicide assessment, treatment, and management training  
34 program every six years after:

35 (i) Initially completing a training program under (a) of this  
36 subsection; or

1 (ii) Obtaining an initial license on or after the effective date of  
2 this section.

3 (c) The hours spent completing a suicide assessment, treatment, and  
4 management training program under this section count toward meeting any  
5 continuing education requirements established under this chapter.

6 (d) Nothing in this subsection (4) may be interpreted to expand or  
7 limit the scope of practice of any profession regulated by this  
8 chapter.

9 **Sec. 20.** RCW 18.71.010 and 1994 sp.s. c 9 s 302 are each amended  
10 to read as follows:

11 The following terms used in this chapter shall have the meanings  
12 set forth in this section unless the context clearly indicates  
13 otherwise:

14 (1) "Commission" means the Washington state medical quality  
15 assurance commission.

16 (2) (~~("Secretary" means the secretary of health.)~~) "Emergency  
17 medical care" or "emergency medical service" has the same meaning as in  
18 chapter 18.73 RCW.

19 (3) "Resident physician" means an individual who has graduated from  
20 a school of medicine which meets the requirements set forth in RCW  
21 18.71.055 and is serving a period of postgraduate clinical medical  
22 training sponsored by a college or university in this state or by a  
23 hospital accredited by this state. For purposes of this chapter, the  
24 term shall include individuals designated as intern or medical fellow.

25 (4) (~~("Emergency medical care" or "emergency medical service" has~~  
26 ~~the same meaning as in chapter 18.73 RCW.)~~) "Secretary" means the  
27 secretary of health.

28 (5) "Suicide assessment, treatment, and management training  
29 program" means:

30 (a) A training program in the assessment, treatment, and management  
31 of suicide of at least six hours in length that is listed on the best  
32 practices registry of the American foundation for suicide prevention  
33 and the suicide prevention resource center including, but not limited  
34 to: Applied suicide intervention skills training; assessment and  
35 management of suicide risk; recognizing and responding to suicide risk;  
36 or question, persuade, respond, and treat; or



1       (b) A training program approved by the commission that is  
2 substantially equivalent to the training programs in (a) of this  
3 subsection.

4       **Sec. 21.** RCW 18.71.050 and 1994 sp.s. c 9 s 307 are each amended  
5 to read as follows:

6       (1) Each applicant who has graduated from a school of medicine  
7 located in any state, territory, or possession of the United States,  
8 the District of Columbia, or the Dominion of Canada, shall file an  
9 application for licensure with the commission on a form prepared by the  
10 secretary with the approval of the commission. Each applicant shall  
11 furnish proof satisfactory to the commission of the following:

12       (a) That the applicant has attended and graduated from a school of  
13 medicine approved by the commission;

14       (b) That the applicant has completed two years of postgraduate  
15 medical training in a program acceptable to the commission, provided  
16 that applicants graduating before July 28, 1985, may complete only one  
17 year of postgraduate medical training;

18       (c) That the applicant is of good moral character; ~~((and))~~

19       (d) That the applicant is physically and mentally capable of safely  
20 carrying on the practice of medicine. The commission may require any  
21 applicant to submit to such examination or examinations as it deems  
22 necessary to determine an applicant's physical and/or mental capability  
23 to safely practice medicine; and

24       (e)(i) That an applicant who intends to practice psychiatry has:

25       (A) Successfully completed at least fifteen hours of coursework in  
26 suicide assessment, treatment, and management at his or her school of  
27 medicine; or

28       (B) Completed a suicide assessment, treatment, and management  
29 training program no more than eight years prior to applying for  
30 licensure under this section.

31       (ii) Nothing in this subsection (1)(e) may be interpreted to expand  
32 or limit the scope of practice of any profession regulated by this  
33 chapter.

34       (2) Nothing in this section shall be construed as prohibiting the  
35 commission from requiring such additional information from applicants  
36 as it deems necessary. The issuance and denial of licenses are subject  
37 to chapter 18.130 RCW, the Uniform Disciplinary Act.

1       **Sec. 22.** RCW 18.71.080 and 2011 c 178 s 1 are each amended to read  
2 as follows:

3       (1)(a) Every person licensed to practice medicine in this state  
4 shall pay licensing fees and renew his or her license in accordance  
5 with administrative procedures and administrative requirements adopted  
6 as provided in RCW 43.70.250 and 43.70.280. A physician who resides  
7 and practices in Washington and obtains or renews a retired active  
8 license is exempt from licensing fees imposed under this section.

9       (b) The commission shall request licensees to submit information  
10 about their current professional practice at the time of license  
11 renewal. This information may include practice setting, medical  
12 specialty, board certification, or other relevant data determined by  
13 the commission.

14       (c) (~~A physician who resides and practices in Washington and~~  
15 ~~obtains or renews a retired active license shall be exempt from~~  
16 ~~licensing fees imposed under this section.)) The commission may  
17 establish rules governing mandatory continuing education requirements  
18 which shall be met by physicians applying for renewal of licenses. The  
19 rules shall provide that mandatory continuing education requirements  
20 may be met in part by physicians showing evidence of the completion of  
21 approved activities relating to professional liability risk management.  
22 The number of hours of continuing education for a physician holding a  
23 retired active license shall not exceed fifty hours per year.~~

24       (d)(i) During the first full continuing education reporting period  
25 following the effective date of this section, a physician who  
26 identifies himself or herself as a psychiatrist under (b) of this  
27 subsection and who obtained his or her initial licensure prior to the  
28 effective date of this section shall complete a suicide assessment,  
29 treatment, and management training program.

30       (ii) All physicians who have identified themselves as psychiatrists  
31 under (b) of this subsection shall complete a suicide assessment,  
32 treatment, and management training program every eight years after:

33       (A) Initially completing a training program under (d)(i) of this  
34 subsection; or

35       (B) Obtaining an initial license on or after the effective date of  
36 this section.

37       (iii) The hours spent completing a suicide assessment, treatment,

1 and management training program under this section count toward meeting  
2 any continuing education requirements established under this chapter.

3 (iv) Nothing in this subsection (1)(d) may be interpreted to expand  
4 or limit the scope of practice of any profession regulated by this  
5 chapter.

6 (2) The office of crime victims advocacy shall supply the  
7 commission with information on methods of recognizing victims of human  
8 trafficking, what services are available for these victims, and where  
9 to report potential trafficking situations. The information supplied  
10 must be culturally sensitive and must include information relating to  
11 minor victims. The commission shall disseminate this information to  
12 licensees by: Providing the information on the commission's web site;  
13 including the information in newsletters; holding trainings at meetings  
14 attended by organization members; or another distribution method  
15 determined by the commission. The commission shall report to the  
16 office of crime victims advocacy on the method or methods it uses to  
17 distribute information under this subsection.

18 (3) The commission, in its sole discretion, may permit an applicant  
19 who has not renewed his or her license to be licensed without  
20 examination if it is satisfied that such applicant meets all the  
21 requirements for licensure in this state, and is competent to engage in  
22 the practice of medicine.

23 NEW SECTION. Sec. 23. The secretary of health and the  
24 disciplining authorities affected by this act shall adopt any rules  
25 necessary to implement this act.

26 NEW SECTION. Sec. 24. Sections 1 through 21 of this act take  
27 effect January 1, 2013.

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