

AMENDED IN SENATE AUGUST 27, 2013

AMENDED IN SENATE AUGUST 15, 2013

AMENDED IN SENATE JUNE 3, 2013

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2013–14 REGULAR SESSION

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 451

Introduced by Assembly Member Eggman

February 19, 2013

An act to amend Sections 4980.72, 4980.74, 4980.78, 4980.80, 4980.90, 4999.57, 4999.58, 4999.59, 4999.60, 4999.61, and 4999.62 of the Business and Professions Code, relating to healing arts.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 451, as amended, Eggman. Healing arts: therapists and counselors: licensing.

Existing law provides for the licensure or registration and regulation of marriage and family therapists and interns and professional clinical counselors by the Board of Behavioral Sciences. Under existing law, the board may issue a license to an applicant who holds a valid license from another state if, among other requirements, his or her education and supervised experience requirements are substantially similar, as specified. Under existing law, for marriage and family therapist applicants who apply for licensure or professional clinical counselor applicants who apply for examination eligibility or registration, the board is required to accept education gained outside of California toward applicable requirements if it is substantially similar and the applicant completes certain coursework and training, and may accept education as substantially equivalent if it meets certain requirements, including the completion of at least 48 semester or 72 quarter units of instruction,

as specified. These provisions apply to marriage and family therapist applicants who apply between January 1, 2010, and December 31, 2013, and to professional clinical counselor applicants who apply between January 1, 2011, and December 31, 2013, and are operative until January 1, 2014.

This bill would extend the application of those provisions to December 31, 2015, and extend the operative date of those provisions to January 1, 2016.

Under existing law, for a marriage and family therapist applicant who holds a valid license from another state and who applies for licensure on or after January 1, 2014, and a professional clinical counselor applicant who holds a valid license from another state and who applies for examination eligibility on or after January 1, 2014, the board may issue a license to that person if, among other requirements, his or her supervised experience is substantially equivalent ~~considering hours of experience obtained outside of California during the 6-year period immediately preceding the date the applicant initially obtained the license and his or her education is substantially~~ equivalent. For an applicant who does not hold a license, the board is required to accept experience and education gained outside of California toward the licensure or registration requirements if it is substantially equivalent. Under existing law, education is substantially equivalent if it meets certain requirements, including the completion of credit level coursework from a degree-granting institution that provides specified instruction and an 18-hour course in California law and professional ethics.

This bill would delay the application of those provisions to January 1, 2016. ~~The bill would require, in determining whether an applicant's supervised experience is substantially equivalent, time actively licensed as a marriage and family therapist or a professional clinical counselor to be accepted at a rate of 100 hours per month up to a maximum of 1,200 hours if the applicant has less than 3,000 hours of qualifying supervised experience.~~

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes.
State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

- 1 SECTION 1. Section 4980.72 of the Business and Professions
- 2 Code is amended to read:

1 4980.72. (a) This section applies to persons who are licensed
2 outside of California and apply for licensure on or after January
3 1, 2016.

4 (b) The board may issue a license to a person who, at the time
5 of submitting an application for a license pursuant to this chapter,
6 holds a valid license in good standing issued by a board of marriage
7 counselor examiners, board of marriage and family therapists, or
8 corresponding authority, of any state or country, if all of the
9 following conditions are satisfied:

10 (1) The applicant's education is substantially equivalent, as
11 defined in Section 4980.78. The applicant's degree title need not
12 be identical to that required by Section 4980.36 or 4980.37.

13 (2) The applicant complies with Section 4980.76, if applicable.

14 (3) The applicant's supervised experience is substantially
15 equivalent to that required for a license under this chapter. ~~If the~~
16 ~~applicant has less than 3,000 hours of qualifying supervised~~
17 ~~experience, time actively licensed as a marriage and family~~
18 ~~therapist shall be accepted at a rate of 100 hours per month up to~~
19 ~~a maximum of 1,200 hours. The board shall consider hours of~~
20 ~~experience obtained outside of California during the six-year~~
21 ~~period immediately preceding the date the applicant initially~~
22 ~~obtained the license described above.~~

23 (4) The applicant passes the California law and ethics
24 examination.

25 (5) The applicant passes a clinical examination designated by
26 the board. An applicant who obtained his or her license or
27 registration under another jurisdiction may apply for licensure with
28 the board without taking the clinical examination if both of the
29 following conditions are met:

30 (A) The applicant obtained a passing score on the licensing
31 examination set forth in regulation as accepted by the board.

32 (B) The applicant's license or registration in that jurisdiction is
33 in good standing at the time of his or her application and has not
34 been revoked, suspended, surrendered, denied, or otherwise
35 restricted or encumbered as a result of any disciplinary proceeding
36 brought by the licensing authority of that jurisdiction.

37 SEC. 2. Section 4980.74 of the Business and Professions Code
38 is amended to read:

1 4980.74. (a) This section applies to persons who apply for
2 licensure or registration on or after January 1, 2016, and who do
3 not hold a license as described in Section 4980.72.

4 (b) The board shall accept education gained while residing
5 outside of California for purposes of satisfying licensure or
6 registration requirements if the education is substantially
7 equivalent, as defined in Section 4980.78, and the applicant
8 complies with Section 4980.76, if applicable. The applicant’s
9 degree title need not be identical to that required by Section
10 4980.36 or 4980.37.

11 (c) The board shall accept experience gained outside of
12 California for purposes of satisfying licensure or registration
13 requirements if the experience is substantially equivalent to that
14 required by this chapter.

15 SEC. 3. Section 4980.78 of the Business and Professions Code
16 is amended to read:

17 4980.78. (a) This section applies to persons who apply for
18 licensure or registration on or after January 1, 2016.

19 (b) For purposes of Sections 4980.72 and 4980.74, education
20 is substantially equivalent if all of the following requirements are
21 met:

22 (1) The degree is obtained from a school, college, or university
23 accredited by an accrediting agency recognized by the United
24 States Department of Education and consists of, at a minimum, 48
25 semester or 72 quarter units, including, but not limited to, both of
26 the following:

27 (A) Six semester or nine quarter units of practicum, including,
28 but not limited to, a minimum of 150 hours of face-to-face
29 counseling.

30 (B) Twelve semester or 18 quarter units in the areas of marriage,
31 family, and child counseling and marital and family systems
32 approaches to treatment, as specified in subparagraph (A) of
33 paragraph (1) of subdivision (d) of Section 4980.36.

34 (2) The applicant completes any units and course content
35 requirements under subdivision (d) of Section 4980.36 not already
36 completed in his or her education.

37 (3) The applicant completes credit level coursework from a
38 degree-granting institution that provides all of the following:

1 (A) Instruction regarding the principles of mental health
2 recovery-oriented care and methods of service delivery in recovery
3 model practice environments.

4 (B) An understanding of various California cultures and the
5 social and psychological implications of socioeconomic position.

6 (C) Structured meeting with various consumers and family
7 members of consumers of mental health services to enhance
8 understanding of their experience of mental illness, treatment, and
9 recovery.

10 (D) Instruction in addiction and co-occurring substance abuse
11 and mental health disorders, as specified in subparagraph (I) of
12 paragraph (2) of subdivision (d) of Section 4980.36.

13 (4) The applicant completes an 18-hour course in California
14 law and professional ethics. The content of the course shall include,
15 but not be limited to, advertising, scope of practice, scope of
16 competence, treatment of minors, confidentiality, dangerous
17 patients, psychotherapist-patient privilege, recordkeeping, patient
18 access to records, state and federal laws relating to confidentiality
19 of patient health information, dual relationships, child abuse, elder
20 and dependent adult abuse, online therapy, insurance
21 reimbursement, civil liability, disciplinary actions and
22 unprofessional conduct, ethics complaints and ethical standards,
23 termination of therapy, standards of care, relevant family law,
24 therapist disclosures to patients, differences in legal and ethical
25 standards in different types of work settings, and licensing law
26 and licensing process.

27 (5) The applicant's degree title need not be identical to that
28 required by subdivision (b) of Section 4980.36.

29 SEC. 4. Section 4980.80 of the Business and Professions Code
30 is amended to read:

31 4980.80. (a) This section applies to persons who apply for
32 licensure between January 1, 2010, and December 31, 2015,
33 inclusive.

34 (b) The board may issue a license to a person who, at the time
35 of application, holds a valid license issued by a board of marriage
36 counselor examiners, marriage therapist examiners, or
37 corresponding authority of any state, if all of the following
38 requirements are satisfied:

39 (1) The person has held that license for at least two years
40 immediately preceding the date of application.

1 (2) The education and supervised experience requirements are
2 substantially the equivalent of this chapter.

3 (3) The person complies with Section 4980.76, if applicable.

4 (4) The person successfully completes the board administered
5 licensing examinations as specified by subdivision (d) of Section
6 4980.40 and pays the fees specified.

7 (5) The person completes all of the following coursework or
8 training:

9 (A) (i) An applicant who completed a two semester or three
10 quarter unit course in law and professional ethics for marriage and
11 family therapists that does not meet the requirements of Section
12 4980.41 as part of his or her qualifying degree shall complete an
13 18-hour course in California law and professional ethics that
14 includes, but is not limited to, the following subjects: advertising,
15 scope of practice, scope of competence, treatment of minors,
16 confidentiality, dangerous patients, psychotherapist-patient
17 privilege, recordkeeping, patient access to records, state and federal
18 laws relating to the confidentiality of patient health information,
19 dual relationships, child abuse, elder and dependent adult abuse,
20 online therapy, insurance reimbursement, civil liability, disciplinary
21 actions and unprofessional conduct, ethics complaints and ethical
22 standards, termination of therapy, standards of care, relevant family
23 law, and therapist disclosures to patients.

24 (ii) An applicant who has not completed a two semester or three
25 quarter unit course in law and professional ethics for marriage and
26 family therapists that included areas of study as specified in Section
27 4980.41 as part of his or her qualifying degree, shall complete a
28 two semester or three quarter unit course in California law and
29 professional ethics that includes, at minimum, the areas of study
30 specified in Section 4980.41.

31 (B) A minimum of seven contact hours of training or coursework
32 in child abuse assessment and reporting as specified in Section 28
33 and any regulations promulgated thereunder.

34 (C) A minimum of 10 contact hours of training or coursework
35 in human sexuality as specified in Section 25 and any regulations
36 promulgated thereunder.

37 (D) A minimum of 15 contact hours of training or coursework
38 in alcoholism and other chemical substance dependency as
39 specified by regulation.

1 (E) (i) Instruction in spousal or partner abuse assessment,
2 detection, and intervention. This instruction may be taken either
3 in fulfillment of other requirements for licensure or in a separate
4 course.

5 (ii) A minimum of 15 contact hours of coursework or training
6 in spousal or partner abuse assessment, detection, and intervention
7 strategies.

8 (F) A minimum of a two semester or three quarter unit survey
9 course in psychological testing. This course may be taken either
10 in fulfillment of other requirements for licensure or in a separate
11 course.

12 (G) A minimum of a two semester or three quarter unit survey
13 course in psychopharmacology. This course may be taken either
14 in fulfillment of other requirements for licensure or in a separate
15 course.

16 (H) With respect to human sexuality, alcoholism and other
17 chemical substance dependency, spousal or partner abuse
18 assessment, detection, and intervention, psychological testing, and
19 psychopharmacology, the board may accept training or coursework
20 acquired out of state.

21 (c) This section shall remain in effect only until January 1, 2016,
22 and as of that date is repealed, unless a later enacted statute, that
23 is enacted before January 1, 2016, deletes or extends that date.

24 SEC. 5. Section 4980.90 of the Business and Professions Code
25 is amended to read:

26 4980.90. (a) This section applies to persons who apply for
27 licensure between January 1, 2010, and December 31, 2015,
28 inclusive.

29 (b) Experience gained outside of California shall be accepted
30 toward the licensure requirements if it is substantially equivalent
31 to that required by this chapter, if the applicant complies with
32 Section 4980.76, if applicable, and if the applicant has gained a
33 minimum of 250 hours of supervised experience in direct
34 counseling within California while registered as an intern with the
35 board. The board shall consider hours of experience obtained in
36 another state during the six-year period immediately preceding the
37 applicant's initial licensure by that state as a marriage and family
38 therapist.

39 (c) Education gained while residing outside of California shall
40 be accepted toward the licensure requirements if it is substantially

1 equivalent to the education requirements of this chapter, and if the
2 applicant has completed all of the following:

3 (1) A two semester or three quarter unit course in California
4 law and professional ethics for marriage, family, and child
5 counselors that shall include areas of study as specified in Section
6 4980.41.

7 (2) A minimum of seven contact hours of training or coursework
8 in child abuse assessment and reporting as specified in Section 28
9 and any regulations promulgated thereunder.

10 (3) A minimum of 10 contact hours of training or coursework
11 in sexuality as specified in Section 25 and any regulations
12 promulgated thereunder.

13 (4) A minimum of 15 contact hours of training or coursework
14 in alcoholism and other chemical substance dependency as
15 specified by regulation.

16 (5) (A) Instruction in spousal or partner abuse assessment,
17 detection, and intervention. This instruction may be taken either
18 in fulfillment of other educational requirements for licensure or
19 in a separate course.

20 (B) A minimum of 15 contact hours of coursework or training
21 in spousal or partner abuse assessment, detection, and intervention
22 strategies.

23 (6) A minimum of a two semester or three quarter unit survey
24 course in psychological testing. This course may be taken either
25 in fulfillment of other requirements for licensure or in a separate
26 course.

27 (7) A minimum of a two semester or three quarter unit survey
28 course in psychopharmacology. This course may be taken either
29 in fulfillment of other requirements for licensure or in a separate
30 course.

31 (8) With respect to human sexuality, alcoholism and other
32 chemical substance dependency, spousal or partner abuse
33 assessment, detection, and intervention, psychological testing, and
34 psychopharmacology, the board may accept training or coursework
35 acquired out of state.

36 (d) For purposes of this section, the board may, in its discretion,
37 accept education as substantially equivalent if the applicant meets
38 both of the following requirements:

39 (1) The applicant has been granted a degree in a single integrated
40 program primarily designed to train marriage and family therapists.

1 (2) The applicant’s education meets the requirements of Section
2 4980.37. The degree title need not be identical to that required by
3 subdivision (b) of Section 4980.37. If the applicant’s degree does
4 not contain the content or the overall units required by Section
5 4980.37, the board may, in its discretion, accept the applicant’s
6 education as substantially equivalent if the following criteria are
7 satisfied:

8 (A) The applicant’s degree contains the required number of
9 practicum units and coursework required in the areas of marriage,
10 family, and child counseling and marital and family systems
11 approaches to treatment as specified in Section 4980.37.

12 (B) The applicant remediates his or her specific deficiency by
13 completing the course content and the units required by Section
14 4980.37.

15 (C) The applicant’s degree otherwise complies with this section.

16 (e) This section shall remain in effect only until January 1, 2016,
17 and as of that date is repealed, unless a later enacted statute, that
18 is enacted before January 1, 2016, deletes or extends that date.

19 SEC. 6. Section 4999.57 of the Business and Professions Code
20 is amended to read:

21 4999.57. (a) This section applies to a person who applies for
22 examination eligibility or registration between January 1, 2011,
23 and December 31, 2015, inclusive, who does not hold a license
24 described in subdivision (a) of Section 4999.58.

25 (b) Experience gained outside of California shall be accepted
26 toward the licensure requirements if it is substantially equivalent
27 to that required by this chapter, if the applicant complies with
28 Section 4999.40, if applicable, and if the applicant has gained a
29 minimum of 250 hours of supervised experience in direct
30 counseling within California while registered as an intern with the
31 board.

32 (c) Education gained while residing outside of California shall
33 be accepted toward the licensure requirements if it is substantially
34 equivalent to the education requirements of this chapter, and if the
35 applicant has completed the training or coursework required under
36 subdivision (e) of Section 4999.32, which includes, in addition to
37 the course described in subparagraph (I) of paragraph (1) of
38 subdivision (c) of Section 4999.32, an 18-hour course in California
39 law and professional ethics for professional clinical counselors.

1 (d) For purposes of this section, the board may, in its discretion,
2 accept education as substantially equivalent if the applicant's
3 education meets the requirements of Section 4999.32. If the
4 applicant's degree does not contain the content or the overall units
5 required by Section 4999.32, the board may, in its discretion, accept
6 the applicant's education as substantially equivalent if the following
7 criteria are satisfied:

8 (1) The applicant's degree contains the required number of
9 practicum units under paragraph (3) of subdivision (c) of Section
10 4999.32.

11 (2) The applicant remediates his or her specific deficiency by
12 completing the course content and units required by Section
13 4999.32.

14 (3) The applicant's degree otherwise complies with this section.

15 (e) This section shall become inoperative on January 1, 2016,
16 and as of that date is repealed, unless a later enacted statute, which
17 is enacted before January 1, 2016, deletes or extends that date.

18 SEC. 7. Section 4999.58 of the Business and Professions Code
19 is amended to read:

20 4999.58. (a) This section applies to a person who applies for
21 examination eligibility between January 1, 2011, and December
22 31, 2015, inclusive, and who meets both of the following
23 requirements:

24 (1) At the time of application, holds a valid license as a
25 professional clinical counselor, or other counseling license that
26 allows the applicant to independently provide clinical mental health
27 services, in another jurisdiction of the United States.

28 (2) Has held the license described in paragraph (1) for at least
29 two years immediately preceding the date of application.

30 (b) The board may issue a license to a person described in
31 subdivision (a) if all of the following requirements are satisfied:

32 (1) The education and supervised experience requirements of
33 the other jurisdiction are substantially the equivalent of this chapter,
34 as described in subdivision (e) and in Section 4999.46.

35 (2) The person complies with subdivision (b) of Section 4999.40,
36 if applicable.

37 (3) The person successfully completes the examinations required
38 by the board pursuant to paragraph (3) of subdivision (a) of Section
39 4999.50. An applicant who obtained his or her license or
40 registration under another jurisdiction by taking a national

1 examination that is required by the board may apply for licensure
2 with the board without retaking that examination if both of the
3 following conditions are met:

4 (A) The applicant obtained a passing score on the national
5 licensing examination that is required by the board.

6 (B) The applicant's license or registration in that jurisdiction is
7 in good standing at the time of his or her application and has not
8 been revoked, suspended, surrendered, denied, or otherwise
9 restricted or encumbered as a result of any disciplinary proceeding
10 brought by the licensing authority of that jurisdiction.

11 (4) The person pays the required fees.

12 (c) Experience gained outside of California shall be accepted
13 toward the licensure requirements if it is substantially equivalent
14 to that required by this chapter. The board shall consider hours of
15 experience obtained in another state during the six-year period
16 immediately preceding the applicant's initial licensure by that state
17 as a licensed professional clinical counselor.

18 (d) Education gained while residing outside of California shall
19 be accepted toward the licensure requirements if it is substantially
20 equivalent to the education requirements of this chapter, and if the
21 applicant has completed the training or coursework required under
22 subdivision (e) of Section 4999.32, which includes, in addition to
23 the course described in subparagraph (I) of paragraph (1) of
24 subdivision (c) of Section 4999.32, an 18-hour course in California
25 law and professional ethics for professional clinical counselors.

26 (e) For purposes of this section, the board may, in its discretion,
27 accept education as substantially equivalent if the applicant's
28 education meets the requirements of Section 4999.32. If the
29 applicant's degree does not contain the content or the overall units
30 required by Section 4999.32, the board may, in its discretion, accept
31 the applicant's education as substantially equivalent if the following
32 criteria are satisfied:

33 (1) The applicant's degree contains the required number of
34 practicum units under paragraph (3) of subdivision (c) of Section
35 4999.32.

36 (2) The applicant remediates his or her specific deficiency by
37 completing the course content and units required by Section
38 4999.32.

39 (3) The applicant's degree otherwise complies with this section.

1 (f) This section shall become inoperative on January 1, 2016,
2 and as of that date is repealed, unless a later enacted statute, which
3 is enacted before January 1, 2016, deletes or extends that date.

4 SEC. 8. Section 4999.59 of the Business and Professions Code
5 is amended to read:

6 4999.59. (a) This section applies to a person who applies for
7 examination eligibility or registration between January 1, 2011,
8 and December 31, 2015, inclusive, who meets both of the following
9 requirements:

10 (1) At the time of application, holds a valid license described
11 in paragraph (1) of subdivision (a) of Section 4999.58.

12 (2) Has held the license described in paragraph (1) for less than
13 two years immediately preceding the date of application.

14 (b) Experience gained outside of California shall be accepted
15 toward the licensure requirements if it is substantially equivalent
16 to that required by this chapter, if the applicant complies with
17 Section 4999.40, if applicable, and if the applicant has gained a
18 minimum of 250 hours of supervised experience in direct
19 counseling within California while registered as an intern with the
20 board. The board shall consider hours of experience obtained in
21 another state during the six-year period immediately preceding the
22 applicant’s initial licensure in that state as a professional clinical
23 counselor.

24 (c) Education gained while residing outside of California shall
25 be accepted toward the licensure requirements if it is substantially
26 equivalent to the education requirements of this chapter, and if the
27 applicant has completed the training or coursework required under
28 subdivision (e) of Section 4999.32, which includes, in addition to
29 the course described in subparagraph (I) of paragraph (1) of
30 subdivision (c) of Section 4999.32, an 18-hour course in California
31 law and professional ethics for professional clinical counselors.

32 (d) For purposes of this section, the board may, in its discretion,
33 accept education as substantially equivalent if the applicant’s
34 education meets the requirements of Section 4999.32. If the
35 applicant’s degree does not contain the content or the overall units
36 required by Section 4999.32, the board may, in its discretion, accept
37 the applicant’s education as substantially equivalent if the following
38 criteria are satisfied:

1 (1) The applicant's degree contains the required number of
2 practicum units under paragraph (3) of subdivision (c) of Section
3 4999.32.

4 (2) The applicant remediates his or her specific deficiency by
5 completing the course content and units required by Section
6 4999.32.

7 (3) The applicant's degree otherwise complies with this section.

8 (e) An applicant who obtained his or her license or registration
9 under another jurisdiction by taking a national examination that
10 is required by the board may apply for licensure with the board
11 without retaking that examination if both of the following
12 conditions are met:

13 (1) The applicant obtained a passing score on the national
14 licensing examination that is required by the board.

15 (2) The applicant's license or registration in that jurisdiction is
16 in good standing at the time of his or her application and has not
17 been revoked, suspended, surrendered, denied, or otherwise
18 restricted or encumbered as a result of any disciplinary proceeding
19 brought by the licensing authority of that jurisdiction.

20 (f) This section shall become inoperative on January 1, 2016,
21 and as of that date is repealed, unless a later enacted statute, which
22 is enacted before January 1, 2016, deletes or extends that date.

23 SEC. 9. Section 4999.60 of the Business and Professions Code
24 is amended to read:

25 4999.60. (a) This section applies to persons who are licensed
26 outside of California and apply for examination eligibility on or
27 after January 1, 2016.

28 (b) The board may issue a license to a person who, at the time
29 of submitting an application for a license pursuant to this chapter,
30 holds a valid license as a professional clinical counselor, or other
31 counseling license that allows the applicant to independently
32 provide clinical mental health services, in another jurisdiction of
33 the United States, if all of the following conditions are satisfied:

34 (1) The applicant's education is substantially equivalent, as
35 defined in Section 4999.62.

36 (2) The applicant complies with subdivision (b) of Section
37 4999.40, if applicable.

38 (3) The applicant's supervised experience is substantially
39 equivalent to that required for a license under this chapter. ~~If the~~
40 ~~applicant has less than 3,000 hours of qualifying supervised~~

1 ~~experience, time actively licensed as a professional clinical~~
 2 ~~counselor shall be accepted at a rate of 100 hours per month up to~~
 3 ~~a maximum of 1,200 hours. The board shall consider hours of~~
 4 ~~experience obtained outside of California during the six-year~~
 5 ~~period immediately preceding the date the applicant initially~~
 6 ~~obtained the license described above.~~

7 (4) The applicant passes the examinations required to obtain a
 8 license under this chapter. An applicant who obtained his or her
 9 license or registration under another jurisdiction may apply for
 10 licensure with the board without taking the clinical examination
 11 if both of the following conditions are met:

12 (A) The applicant obtained a passing score on the licensing
 13 examination set forth in regulation as accepted by the board.

14 (B) The applicant’s license or registration in that jurisdiction is
 15 in good standing at the time of his or her application and has not
 16 been revoked, suspended, surrendered, denied, or otherwise
 17 restricted or encumbered as a result of any disciplinary proceeding
 18 brought by the licensing authority of that jurisdiction.

19 SEC. 10. Section 4999.61 of the Business and Professions
 20 Code is amended to read:

21 4999.61. (a) This section applies to persons who apply for
 22 examination eligibility or registration on or after January 1, 2016,
 23 and who do not hold a license as described in Section 4999.60.

24 (b) The board shall accept education gained while residing
 25 outside of California for purposes of satisfying licensure or
 26 registration requirements if the education is substantially
 27 equivalent, as defined in Section 4999.62, and the applicant
 28 complies with subdivision (b) of Section 4999.40, if applicable.

29 (c) The board shall accept experience gained outside of
 30 California for purposes of satisfying licensure or registration
 31 requirements if the experience is substantially equivalent to that
 32 required by this chapter.

33 SEC. 11. Section 4999.62 of the Business and Professions
 34 Code is amended to read:

35 4999.62. (a) This section applies to persons who apply for
 36 examination eligibility or registration on or after January 1, 2016.

37 (b) For purposes of Sections 4999.60 and 4999.61, education
 38 is substantially equivalent if all of the following requirements are
 39 met:

1 (1) The degree is obtained from an accredited or approved
2 institution, as defined in Section 4999.12, and consists of, at a
3 minimum, 48 semester or 72 quarter units, including, but not
4 limited to, both of the following:

5 (A) Six semester or nine quarter units of practicum, including,
6 but not limited to, a minimum of 280 hours of face-to-face
7 counseling.

8 (B) The required areas of study listed in subparagraphs (A) to
9 (M), inclusive, of paragraph (1) of subdivision (c) of Section
10 4999.33.

11 (2) The applicant completes any units and course content
12 requirements under Section 4999.33 not already completed in his
13 or her education.

14 (3) The applicant completes credit level coursework from a
15 degree-granting institution that provides all of the following:

16 (A) Instruction regarding the principles of mental health
17 recovery-oriented care and methods of service delivery in recovery
18 model practice environments.

19 (B) An understanding of various California cultures and the
20 social and psychological implications of socioeconomic position.

21 (C) Structured meeting with various consumers and family
22 members of consumers of mental health services to enhance
23 understanding of their experience of mental illness, treatment, and
24 recovery.

25 (D) Instruction in behavioral addiction and co-occurring
26 substance abuse and mental health disorders, as specified in
27 subparagraph (K) of paragraph (1) of subdivision (c) of Section
28 4999.33.

29 (4) The applicant completes, in addition to the course described
30 in subparagraph (I) of paragraph (1) of subdivision (c) of Section
31 4999.33, an 18-hour course in California law and professional
32 ethics that includes, but is not limited to, instruction in advertising,
33 scope of practice, scope of competence, treatment of minors,
34 confidentiality, dangerous clients, psychotherapist-client privilege,
35 recordkeeping, client access to records, state and federal laws
36 relating to confidentiality of patient health information, dual
37 relationships, child abuse, elder and dependent adult abuse, online
38 therapy, insurance reimbursement, civil liability, disciplinary
39 actions and unprofessional conduct, ethics complaints and ethical

- 1 standards, termination of therapy, standards of care, relevant family
- 2 law, and therapist disclosures to clients.

O