

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

# SENATE BILL NO. 482

94TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

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INTRODUCED BY SENATORS GIBBONS, CLEMENS, CALLAHAN AND VOGEL.

Read 1st time February 8, 2007, and ordered printed.

TERRY L. SPIELER, Secretary.

1710L.011

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## AN ACT

To repeal section 337.700, RSMo, and to enact in lieu thereof one new section relating to family and marital therapists.

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*Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Missouri, as follows:*

Section A. Section 337.700, RSMo, is repealed and one new section  
2 enacted in lieu thereof, to be known as section 337.700, to read as follows:

337.700. As used in sections 337.700 to 337.739, the following terms  
2 mean:

3 (1) "Committee", the state committee for family and marital therapists;

4 (2) "Department", the Missouri department of economic development;

5 (3) "Director", the director of the division of professional registration in  
6 the department of economic development;

7 (4) "Division", the division of professional registration;

8 (5) "Fund", the marital and family therapists' fund created in section  
9 337.712;

10 (6) "Licensed marital and family therapist", a person to whom a license  
11 has been issued pursuant to the provisions of sections 337.700 to 337.739, whose  
12 license is in force and not suspended or revoked;

13 (7) "Marital and family therapy", the use of scientific and applied  
14 marriage and family theories, methods and procedures for the purpose of  
15 describing, **diagnosing**, evaluating and modifying marital, family and individual  
16 behavior within the context of marital and family systems, including the context  
17 of marital formation and dissolution. Marriage and family therapy is based on  
18 systems theories, marriage and family development, normal and dysfunctional  
19 behavior, human sexuality and psychotherapeutic, marital and family therapy  
20 theories and techniques and includes the use of marriage and family therapy

21 theories and techniques in the **diagnosis**, evaluation, assessment and treatment  
22 of intrapersonal or interpersonal dysfunctions within the context of marriage and  
23 family systems. Marriage and family therapy may also include clinical research  
24 into more effective methods for the treatment and prevention of the above-named  
25 conditions;

26 (8) "Practice of marital and family therapy", the rendering of professional  
27 marital and family therapy services to individuals, family groups and marital  
28 pairs, singly or in groups, whether such services are offered directly to the  
29 general public or through organizations, either public or private, for a fee,  
30 monetary or otherwise.

Unofficial

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Bill

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