

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

SENATE BILL NO. 509

94TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY SENATOR SCOTT.

Read 1st time February 14, 2007, and ordered printed.

TERRY L. SPIELER, Secretary.

2127S.011

AN ACT

To repeal section 337.715, RSMo, and to enact in lieu thereof one new section relating to marital and family therapists.

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

Section A. Section 337.715, RSMo, is repealed and one new section
2 enacted in lieu thereof, to be known as section 337.715, to read as follows:

337.715. 1. Each applicant for licensure as a marital and family therapist
2 shall furnish evidence to the division that:

3 (1) The applicant has a master's degree or a doctoral degree in marital
4 and family therapy, or its equivalent, from an acceptable educational institution
5 accredited by a regional accrediting body or accredited by an accrediting body
6 which has been approved by the United States Department of Education;

7 (2) The applicant has twenty-four months of postgraduate supervised
8 clinical experience acceptable to the division, as the division determines by rule;

9 (3) Upon examination, the applicant is possessed of requisite knowledge
10 of the profession, including techniques and applications research and its
11 interpretation and professional affairs and ethics;

12 (4) The applicant is at least eighteen years of age, is of good moral
13 character, is a United States citizen or has status as a legal resident alien, and
14 has not been convicted of a felony during the ten years immediately prior to
15 application for licensure.

16 2. [A licensed marriage and family therapist who has had no violations
17 and no suspensions and no revocation of a license to practice marriage and family
18 therapy in any jurisdiction may receive a license in Missouri provided said
19 marriage and family therapist passes a written examination on Missouri laws and

EXPLANATION—Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in this bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

20 regulations governing the practice of professional counseling as defined in section
21 337.700, and meets one of the following criteria:

22 (1) Is a member in good standing and holds a certification from the
23 Academy of Marriage and Family Therapists;

24 (2) Is currently licensed or certified as a licensed marriage and family
25 therapist in another state, territory of the United States, or the District of
26 Columbia; and

27 (a) Meets the educational standards set forth in subdivision (1) of
28 subsection 1 of this section;

29 (b) Has been licensed for the preceding five years; and

30 (c) Has had no disciplinary action taken against the license for the
31 preceding five years; or

32 (3) Is currently licensed or certified as a marriage and family therapist
33 in another state, territory of the United States, or the District of Columbia that
34 extends like privileges for reciprocal licensing or certification to persons licensed
35 by this state with similar qualifications.

36 **3.] Any person otherwise qualified for licensure holding a**
37 **current license, certificate of registration, or permit from another state**
38 **or territory of the United States, or District of Columbia to practice**
39 **marriage and family therapy may be granted a license without**
40 **examination to engage in the practice of marital and family therapy in**
41 **this state upon application to the committee, payment of the required**
42 **fee as established by the committee, and satisfaction of the following:**

43 **(1) Determination by the committee that the requirements of the**
44 **other state or territory are substantially the same as Missouri; and**

45 **(2) Verification by the applicant's licensing entity that the**
46 **applicant has a current license; and**

47 **(3) Consent by the applicant to examination of any disciplinary**
48 **history in any state.**

49 **3.** The [division] committee shall issue a license to each person who files
50 an application and fee as required by the provisions of [sections 337.700 to
51 337.739, and who furnishes evidence satisfactory to the division that the
52 applicant has complied with the provisions of subdivisions (1) to (4) of subsection
53 1 of this section or with the provisions of subsection 2 of] this section.