



Oregon

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Oregon Board of Licensed Social Workers

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FACT SHEET – 2013 DRAFT LEGISLATIVE CONCEPT

Problems Addressed:

- 2009 Regulatory Reforms (Senate Bill 177) permitted voluntary licensure for non-clinical practice at the Bachelor (RBSW) and Masters (LMSW) level, but did not provide definitions for practice at that level
- 2009 Regulatory Reform also did not update the clinical social work definition dating back to 1977
- No Board representation for those licensed or certified as LMSW, RBSW or CSWA

Proposed Solution:

- Adopts national model language for all levels of social work practice as developed by the Association of Social Work Boards (ASWB) over ten years (1996-2006), as originally proposed by the Board in Senate Bill 177 (2009)
- Permits service in at least one Board professional position for those licensed or certified as LMSW, RBSW or CSWA

Impact of Proposed Solution:

- Does not change who needs to become licensed:
 - No changes to the current limited, clinical social work only, practice act
 - No changes to exemptions from clinical social work licensure requirement
 - Licensure for non-clinical social work practice remains voluntary
 - Same protection for “social worker” title (requires SW degree and licensure)
- Provides clarity of content and scope for non-clinical practice
- Provides shorter and clearer scope language for clinical practice without adding anything to the scope of clinical social work practice, or taking anything away
- Does not impact insurance panel eligibility for LCSWs
- Permits representation in at least one Board position for LMSWs/RBSWs/CSWAs

Additional Information:

- This draft proposal is under review and discussion with Board stakeholders and thus is still subject to change before being proposed by the Board to the Governor for consideration. The Governor may approve introduction as a state agency bill for further consideration in the 2013 session of the Oregon State Legislature.

Contact for this Draft Legislative Concept:

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