

SENATE BILL NO. 372
INTRODUCED BY SWYSGOOD

IN THE SENATE

FEBRUARY 12, 1993	INTRODUCED AND REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON BUSINESS & INDUSTRY.
	FIRST READING.
FEBRUARY 19, 1993	COMMITTEE RECOMMEND BILL DO PASS. REPORT ADOPTED.
	PRINTING REPORT.
FEBRUARY 22, 1993	SECOND READING, DO PASS.
FEBRUARY 23, 1993	ENGROSSING REPORT.
	THIRD READING, PASSED. AYES, 42; NOES, 7.
	TRANSMITTED TO HOUSE.

IN THE HOUSE

FEBRUARY 23, 1993	INTRODUCED AND REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON BUSINESS & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT.
	FIRST READING.
MARCH 6, 1993	COMMITTEE RECOMMEND BILL BE CONCURRED IN. REPORT ADOPTED.
MARCH 10, 1993	SECOND READING, CONCURRED IN.
MARCH 12, 1993	THIRD READING, CONCURRED IN. AYES, 72; NOES, 25.
MARCH 13, 1993	RETURNED TO SENATE.

IN THE SENATE

MARCH 15, 1993	RECEIVED FROM HOUSE.
	SENT TO ENROLLING.
	REPORTED CORRECTLY ENROLLED.

1 Senate BILL NO. 372
 2 INTRODUCED BY *Swyggest*
 3
 4 A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT REQUIRING THAT THE
 5 BOARD OF SOCIAL WORK EXAMINERS AND PROFESSIONAL COUNSELORS
 6 ESTABLISH PROVISIONS BY RULE TO ACCOUNT FOR PARTIAL
 7 FULFILLMENT OF THE REQUIREMENTS FOR LICENSURE AS A
 8 PROFESSIONAL COUNSELOR THROUGH A GRADUATE DEGREE OR
 9 LICENSURE FROM ANOTHER STATE; AMENDING SECTION 37-23-202,
 10 MCA; AND PROVIDING AN IMMEDIATE EFFECTIVE DATE."
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12 STATEMENT OF INTENT

13 A statement of intent is required for this bill because
 14 it requires the board of social work examiners and
 15 professional counselors to adopt rules to provide an
 16 opportunity for persons who partially fulfill the
 17 requirements for licensure as a professional counselor to
 18 fulfill the requirements. It is the intent of the
 19 legislature that the board facilitate the licensure of those
 20 who have begun a course of education and experience as a
 21 professional counselor to meet the requirements of the
 22 board. It is not the intent of the legislature to allow a
 23 person without a graduate degree or a license from another
 24 state to circumvent the requirements for licensure.
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1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

2 **Section 1.** Section 37-23-202, MCA, is amended to read:
 3 "37-23-202. Licensure requirements. (i) ~~to be licensed~~
 4 ~~on or before December 31, 1987, as a professional counselor~~
 5 ~~under this chapter, an applicant must have satisfactorily~~
 6 ~~completed:~~
 7 (a) ~~a planned graduate program of study that was~~
 8 ~~primarily counseling in nature which resulted in an advanced~~
 9 ~~degree in a counseling field from an institution accredited~~
 10 ~~to offer such a degree program;~~
 11 (b) ~~2,000 hours or more of postdegree work experience~~
 12 ~~as a counselor in a hospital, school, agency, or other~~
 13 ~~supervised setting;~~
 14 (c) ~~and passed an examination prepared and administered~~
 15 ~~by:~~
 16 (i) ~~the board, based on a national examination approved~~
 17 ~~by the board;~~
 18 (ii) ~~the national board of certified counselors; or~~
 19 (iii) ~~the national academy of certified clinical mental~~
 20 ~~health counselors; and~~
 21 (d) ~~an application form and process prescribed by the~~
 22 ~~board that includes submission of three letters of~~
 23 ~~nomination from counselors or related professionals, each of~~
 24 ~~whom holds a master's degree or higher and who can attest to~~
 25 ~~the quality of the applicant's work.~~

~~(2)(1)~~ ~~To--be--licensed--after--December-31,--1987,--an~~ An applicant for licensure must have satisfactorily completed:

(a) a planned graduate program of ~~90--quarter~~ 60 semester hours, primarily counseling in nature, ~~nine-quarter~~ 6 semester hours of which were earned in an advanced counseling practicum, which resulted in a graduate degree from an institution accredited to offer a graduate program in counseling;

(b) 2,000 hours of counseling practice supervised by a licensed professional counselor or licensed member of an allied mental health profession, at least half of which was postdegree. The applicant must have each supervisor endorse his the application for licensure, attesting to the number of hours supervised.

(c) and passed an examination prepared and administered by:

(i) the board, based on a national examination approved by the board;

(ii) the national board of certified counselors; or

(iii) the national academy of certified clinical mental health counselors; and

(d) an application form and process prescribed by the board.

(2) The board shall provide by rule for licensure:

(a) of a person who possesses a minimum 45 semester

hour graduate degree that is primarily related to counseling and that is from an institution accredited to offer a graduate program in counseling, by specifying the additional graduate credit hours necessary to fulfill the requirements of subsection (1)(a) in counseling courses in an approved program within a period of 5 years; and

(b) of a person who possesses a license or certification as a professional counselor from an agency located in another state whose requirements are less than the requirements of this chapter, by:

(i) crediting past clinical experience in psychotherapy and counseling; and

(ii) recommending additional education or experience necessary to fulfill the requirements of this chapter."

NEW SECTION. Section 2. Saving clause. [This act] does not affect rights and duties that matured, penalties that were incurred, or proceedings that were begun before [the effective date of this act].

NEW SECTION. Section 3. Effective date. [This act] is effective on passage and approval.

-End-

STATE OF MONTANA - FISCAL NOTE

Form BD-15

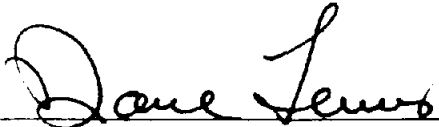
In compliance with a written request, there is hereby submitted a Fiscal Note for SB0372, as introduced


DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION: An act requiring that the Board of Social Work Examiners and Professional Counselors establish provisions by rule to account for partial fulfillment of the requirements for licensure as a professional counselor through a graduate degree or licensure from another state.

Assumptions:

1. There will be no significant change in the workbook.
2. The additional rules needed will be accomplished within the current budget.

FISCAL IMPACT: None.

 2-15-93
DAVID LEWIS, BUDGET DIRECTOR DATE
Office of Budget and Program Planning

 2/17/93
CHUCK SWYSGOOD, PRIMARY SPONSOR DATE

Fiscal Note for SB0372, as introduced

SB 372

APPROVED BY COMM. ON
BUSINESS & INDUSTRY

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8 primarily counseling in nature which resulted in an advanced
9 degree in a counseling field from an institution accredited
10 to offer such a degree program;

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12 as a counselor in a hospital, school, agency, or other
13 supervised setting;

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15 by:

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20 health counselors; and

21 (d) an application form and process prescribed by the
22 board that includes submission of three letters of
23 nomination from counselors or related professionals, each of
24 whom holds a master's degree or higher and who can attest to
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