

graduate social work to an individual who has received a master's degree and is working under the supervision of certain licensed individuals. This legislation clearly stipulated that a license includes a license issued by the State Board of Social Work Examiners to practice graduate social work. As such, a "licensed graduate social worker" is subject to all the rules and regulations bestowed on individuals who have been granted a license to practice certified social work or certified social work-clinical. In addition, House Bill 731, which I signed earlier this year, creates a temporary license to practice cosmetology to an individual who is waiting to take a licensing examination. Unlike Senate Bill 547, House Bill 731 clearly defines "license" to include a temporary license and therefore subjects these individuals to the normal licensure process and disciplinary authority of the State Board of Cosmetology.

Apart from the concern that I have over the use of the term "licensed" in the context of Senate Bill 547, I also believe that Senate Bill 547 creates an inequity among the health care professions. Allowing an individual to practice under the supervision of a licensed health care provider while pursuing the experiential requirements typically required under law is a common thread that extends to many health occupation boards. However, no board allows these individuals to receive a credential or title unless the Board has issued a license to them. Consequently, it seems unfair to grant a license to the individuals represented under Senate Bill 547 when individuals in similar positions are not granted a title. For example, Senate Bill 71, passed this Session and signed by me, allows an individual to practice alcohol and drug counseling without certification or to practice clinical alcohol and drug counseling without a license if the individual is working as a trainee under the supervision of an approved alcohol and drug supervisor while fulfilling the experiential or course of study requirements under law. Senate Bill 71 does not, however, grant these individuals a title or a credential during this period of time. In order not to confuse the public, I believe a consistent approach is needed among the health care professions.

For the above reasons, I have vetoed Senate Bill 547.

Sincerely,
Parris N. Glendening
Governor

Senate Bill No. 547

AN ACT concerning

State Board of Professional Counselors and Therapists

~~FOR the purpose of reinstating a statutory veto previously granted the licensed clinical marriage and family therapist member of the State Board of Professional Counselors and Therapists; authorizing licensed graduate marriage and family therapists and licensed graduate clinical professional counselors to provide services under certain supervision; authorizing the Board to designate who may provide the supervision; the Board State Board of Professional Counselors and Therapists to adopt certain regulations regarding practicing under supervision as a certain counselor or therapist; providing~~