

- (3) initiatives from other states for the facilitation of licensure or certification of foreign-born and foreign-trained mental health professionals;
- (4) mental health workforce shortages and potential strategies to use foreign-born and foreign-trained mental health professionals to alleviate shortages; and
- (5) options for enhancing the cultural competency of currently licensed and certified mental health professionals.
- (d) The Workgroup shall develop recommendations regarding:
- (1) the availability of specific options to facilitate the licensure or certification of foreign-born and foreign-trained mental health professionals within the limitations of State and federal law;
- (2) the development of training programs to assist foreign-born and foreign-trained mental health professionals to prepare for and pass required licensure or certification examinations;
- (3) the development of specific training and educational materials and programs to enhance the cultural competency of all mental health professionals;
- (4) ~~changes to the advantages and disadvantages of changing~~ the current licensing and certification requirements for relevant professional licensing boards; and
- (5) any other initiatives that will accomplish enhanced access to culturally sensitive and competent mental health services.
- (e) The Workgroup shall report its findings and recommendations to the Governor and, in accordance with § 2-1246 of the State Government Article, the General Assembly and the Joint Committee on Access to Mental Health Services, on or before November 1, 2007.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 2007. It shall remain effective for a period of 1 year and, at the end of June 30, 2008, with no further action required by the General Assembly, this Act shall be abrogated and of no further force and effect.

Approved by the Governor, May 8, 2007.