

1 H.661

2 Representatives Lippert of Hinesburg, Black of Essex, Cina of Burlington,
3 Cordes of Lincoln, Donahue of Northfield, Goldman of Rockingham, and
4 Houghton of Essex move that the bill be amended by striking out all after the
5 enacting clause and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

6 * * * Continuing Education Units; Psychologists * * *

7 Sec. 1. 26 V.S.A. § 3015 is amended to read:

8 § 3015. RENEWALS

9 (a) Licenses shall be renewed every two years upon payment of the
10 required fee.

11 * * *

12 (d) Continuing education units.

13 (1) As a condition of renewal, the Board ~~may~~ shall require that licensees
14 establish that they have satisfied continuing education requirements established
15 by Board rule and this subsection.

16 (2) Continuing education requirements shall include requiring one or
17 more continuing education units in the area of systematic oppression and anti-
18 oppressive practice, or in related topic areas, consistent with the report
19 recommendations from the Health Equity Advisory Commission required
20 pursuant to 2021 Acts and Resolves No. 33, Sec. 5 for improving cultural

1 competency, cultural humility, and antiracism in Vermont's health care
2 system.

3 (3) Synchronous virtual continuing education credits shall be approvable
4 and accepted as live in-person training.

5 (4) Upon application, the Board may exempt from continuing education
6 requirements a licensee on active duty in the U.S. Armed Forces, if obtaining
7 continuing education credits would be impossible in practice or a significant
8 hardship for the licensee.

9 (5) If the licensee is licensed in one or more other mental health
10 professions under this title, continuing education units completed for one
11 mental health profession shall count toward the required continuing education
12 units for the other mental health profession or professions for which the
13 licensee is licensed under this title.

14 * * * Continuing Education Units; Social Workers * * *

15 Sec. 2. 26 V.S.A. § 3208 is amended to read:

16 § 3208. RENEWALS

17 * * *

18 (d) As a condition of renewal, a licensee shall complete continuing
19 education, approved by the Director by rule, during the preceding two-year
20 period. For purposes of this subsection, the Director may require, by rule, not
21 more than 20 hours of approved continuing social work education as a

1 condition of renewal. Synchronous virtual continuing education credits shall
2 be approvable and accepted as live in-person training. Continuing education
3 requirements shall include requiring one or more continuing education units in
4 the area of systematic oppression and anti-oppressive practice, or in related
5 topic areas, consistent with the report recommendations from the Health Equity
6 Advisory Commission required pursuant to 2021 Acts and Resolves No. 33,
7 Sec. 5 for improving cultural competency, cultural humility, and antiracism in
8 Vermont’s health care system. If the licensee is licensed in one or more other
9 mental health professions under this title, continuing education units completed
10 for one mental health profession shall count toward the required continuing
11 education units for the other mental health profession or professions for which
12 the licensee is licensed under this title.

13 * * *

14 * * * Continuing Education Units; Alcohol and Drug Abuse

15 Counselors * * *

16 Sec. 3. 26 V.S.A. § 3238 is amended to read:

17 § 3238. BIENNIAL RENEWALS

18 (a) Licenses and certifications shall be renewed every two years on a
19 schedule set by the Office upon:

20 (1) ~~payment~~ Payment of the required fee; ~~and~~.

1 as required by this section. Synchronous virtual continuing education credits
2 shall be approvable and accepted as live in-person training. Continuing
3 education requirements shall include requiring one or more continuing
4 education units in the area of systematic oppression and anti-oppressive
5 practice, or in related topic areas, consistent with the report recommendations
6 from the Health Equity Advisory Commission required pursuant to 2021 Acts
7 and Resolves No. 33, Sec. 5 for improving cultural competency, cultural
8 humility, and antiracism in Vermont’s health care system. If the licensee is
9 licensed in one or more other mental health professions under this title,
10 continuing education units completed for one mental health profession shall
11 count toward the required continuing education units for the other mental
12 health profession or professions for which the licensee is licensed under this
13 title.

14 * * * Continuing Education Units; Marriage and Family

15 Therapists * * *

16 Sec. 5. 26 V.S.A. § 4040 is amended to read:

17 § 4040. RENEWALS

18 (a) Licenses shall be renewed every two years upon payment of the
19 required fee, provided the person applying for renewal has completed at least
20 20 hours of continuing education, approved by the Board, during the preceding
21 two-year period.

1 hours of continuing education, approved by the Director, during the preceding
2 two-year period.

3 (1) The Director, with the advice of the advisor appointees, shall
4 establish, by rule, guidelines and criteria for continuing education credit.
5 Synchronous virtual continuing education credits shall be approvable and
6 accepted as live in-person training. Continuing education requirements shall
7 include requiring one or more continuing education units in the area of
8 systematic oppression and anti-oppressive practice, or in related topic areas,
9 consistent with the report recommendations from the Health Equity Advisory
10 Commission required pursuant to 2021 Acts and Resolves No. 33, Sec. 5 for
11 improving cultural competency, cultural humility, and antiracism in Vermont's
12 health care system.

13 (2) The education requirement shall not apply for the first renewal
14 period. If the licensee is licensed in one or more other mental health
15 professions under this title, continuing education units completed for one
16 mental health profession shall count toward the required continuing education
17 units for the other mental health profession or professions for which the
18 licensee is licensed under this title.

19 * * *

1 with low income, individuals with disabilities, and those individuals with lived
2 mental health and substance use experience entering mental health professions
3 regulated by the Office of Professional Regulation.

4 (b) Stakeholder input. The Director of the Office of Professional
5 Regulation shall seek the input and recommendations of the following
6 stakeholders in completing the study:

7 (1) representatives of each mental health care profession associated
8 with the Office of Professional Regulation, selected by their respective
9 licensing board or by the Director;

10 (2) the Commissioner of Mental Health or designee;

11 (3) the Chair of the Health Equity Advisory Commission established
12 pursuant to 18 V.S.A. § 252 or designee;

13 (4) representatives of mental health care professional organizations;

14 (5) representatives of health insurers;

15 (6) individuals in mental health care professions or seeking to enter
16 mental health care professions, selected by AALV, Inc., the Vermont
17 Commission on Native American Affairs, the Vermont Center for
18 Independent Living, and Outright Vermont; and

19 (7) other interested stakeholders, including individuals from diverse
20 backgrounds to represent the interests of communities of color and other
21 historically underrepresented populations in mental health care professions.

