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H.322

Introduced by Representatives Rachelson of Burlington and Cina of

Burlington

Referred to Committee on

Date:

Subject: Professional regulation; social workers; licensure

Statement of purpose of bill as introduced: This bill proposes to prohibit the use of a person’s name or advertising services in connection with the title “social worker” unless the individual is licensed under 26 V.S.A. chapter 61.

It further proposes to specify that the Council of Social Work Education accredits social work programs for the purpose of licensure under 26 V.S.A. chapter 61.

An act relating to social worker licensure requirements

It is hereby enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Vermont:

Sec. 1. 26 V.S.A. § 3202 is amended to read:

§ 3202. PROHIBITION; OFFENSES

(a) A person shall not practice or attempt to practice licensed independent clinical social work or licensed master’s social work, nor shall any person use in connection with the person’s name any letters, words, or insignia indicating or implying that the person is a licensed independent clinical social worker or a

1 licensed master's social worker unless the person is licensed in accordance  
2 with this chapter.

3 (b) ~~A person who violates any of the provisions of subsection (a) of this~~  
4 ~~section shall be subject to the penalties provided in 3 V.S.A. § 127.~~ Unless a  
5 person has earned a bachelor's, master's, or doctoral degree from a social work  
6 program accredited by the Council of Social Work Education or its successor,  
7 the person shall not:

8 (1) use the title "social worker" or any initials associated with the title;

9 or

10 (2) advertise services under the description of "social worker."

11 (c) ~~A~~ Neither a State agency or a subdivision or contractor thereof, nor a  
12 private entity, shall not use or permit the use of the title "social worker" other  
13 than in relation to an employee holding a bachelor's, master's, or doctoral  
14 degree from an accredited school or program of a social work program  
15 accredited by the Council of Social Work Education or its successor.

16 (d) A person who violates any of the provisions of this section shall be  
17 subject to the penalties provided in 3 V.S.A. § 127.

18 Sec. 2. 26 V.S.A. § 3205 is amended to read:

19 § 3205. LICENSED MASTER'S SOCIAL WORKER ELIGIBILITY

20 To be eligible for licensing as a licensed master's social worker, an  
21 applicant must have:

