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HOUSE BILL 2498

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State of Washington                      55th Legislature                      1998 Regular Session

By Representatives Cody, Dyer, Backlund and Conway

Read first time . Referred to Committee on .

1            AN ACT Relating to registration of counselors; and amending RCW  
2 18.19.020 and 18.19.090.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

4            **Sec. 1.** RCW 18.19.020 and 1991 c 3 s 19 are each amended to read  
5 as follows:

6            Unless the context clearly requires otherwise, the definitions in  
7 this section apply throughout this chapter.

8            (1) "Certified marriage and family therapist" means a person  
9 certified to practice marriage and family therapy pursuant to RCW  
10 18.19.130.

11            (2) "Certified mental health counselor" means a person certified to  
12 practice mental health counseling pursuant to RCW 18.19.120.

13            (3) "Certified social worker" means a person certified to practice  
14 social work pursuant to RCW 18.19.110.

15            (4) "Client" means an individual who receives or participates in  
16 counseling or group counseling.

17            (5) "Counseling" means employing any therapeutic techniques,  
18 including but not limited to social work, mental health counseling,  
19 marriage and family therapy, recreational therapy, and hypnotherapy,

1 for a fee that offer, assist or attempt to assist an individual or  
2 individuals in the amelioration or adjustment of mental, emotional, or  
3 behavioral problems, and includes therapeutic techniques to achieve  
4 sensitivity and awareness of self and others and the development of  
5 human potential. For the purposes of this chapter, nothing may be  
6 construed to imply that the practice of recreational therapy and  
7 hypnotherapy is necessarily limited to counseling.

8 (6) "Counselor" means an individual, practitioner, therapist, or  
9 analyst who engages in the practice of counseling to the public for a  
10 fee, including for the purposes of this chapter, recreational  
11 therapists or hypnotherapists.

12 (7) "Department" means the department of health.

13 (8) "Secretary" means the secretary of the department or the  
14 secretary's designee.

15 **Sec. 2.** RCW 18.19.090 and 1991 c 3 s 24 are each amended to read  
16 as follows:

17 The secretary shall issue a registration to any applicant who  
18 submits, on forms provided by the secretary, the applicant's name,  
19 address, occupational title, name and location of business, and other  
20 information as determined by the secretary, including information  
21 necessary to determine whether there are grounds for denial of  
22 registration or issuance of a conditional registration under this  
23 chapter or chapter 18.130 RCW. Applicants for registration shall  
24 register as counselors or may register as hypnotherapists or  
25 recreational therapists if employing hypnosis or recreational therapy  
26 as a modality. Applicants shall, in addition, provide in their titles  
27 a description of their therapeutic orientation, discipline, theory, or  
28 technique. Each applicant shall pay a fee determined by the secretary  
29 as provided in RCW 43.70.250, which shall accompany the application.

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