Washington State House of Representatives Office of Program Research

BILL ANALYSIS

Health Care & Wellness Committee

HB 1007

Brief Description: Concerning the completion of supervised experience through distance supervision.

Sponsors: Representatives Klippert, Slatter, Graham and Macri.

Brief Summary of Bill

• Removes the 60-hour limitation on the number of supervised experience hours that a person pursuing a license as an independent clinical social worker may complete through distance supervision and allows all hours to be completed through distance learning.

Hearing Date: 1/13/21

Staff: Christopher Blake (786-7392).

Background:

Independent clinical social workers are licensed by the Department of Health to diagnose and treat emotional and mental disorders. To become a licensed independent clinical social worker, an applicant must have: (1) graduated from an approved master's or doctorate level social work educational program; (2) passed an approved examination; and (3) completed a supervised experience requirement. The supervised experience requirement consists of 4,000 hours of experience under an approved supervisor. At least 1,000 of those hours must have direct client contact and no more than 60 supervised hours may be completed through distance supervision.

Summary of Bill:

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This analysis was prepared by non-partisan legislative staff for the use of legislative members in their deliberations. This analysis is not part of the legislation nor does it constitute a statement of legislative intent.

The 60-hour limitation on the number of supervised experience hours that a person pursuing a license as an independent clinical social worker may complete through distance supervision is removed; all hours may be completed through distance learning.

Appropriation: None.

Fiscal Note: Preliminary fiscal note available. New fiscal note requested on (DATE).

Effective Date: The bill contains an emergency clause and takes effect immediately, except for section [SECTION], relating to [EXCEPTION], which takes effect [DATE].