

Senate Bill No. 559

(By Senators M. Hall and Ferns)

[Introduced February 23, 2015;
referred to the Committee on
Government Organization.]

A BILL to amend and reenact §30-30-18 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to exemptions from the social work licensing requirements of this article.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:

That §30-30-18 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, be amended and reenacted to read as follows:

ARTICLE 30. SOCIAL WORKERS.

§30-30-18. Exemptions from this article.

1 The following persons are exempt from licensure, unless specifically stated in writing by the
2 employer:

3 (1) A person employed as the director or administrative head of a social service agency or
4 division, or applicants for such employment; ~~to be licensed;~~

5 (2) Licensed or qualified members of other professions, such as physicians, psychologists,
6 lawyers, counselors, clergy or educators;

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1 (3) ~~or the general public~~ Members of other professions not specified in subdivision (2) of this
2 section engaged in social work-like activities from doing social work consistent with their training
3 if they do not hold themselves out to the public by a title or description incorporating the words
4 "licensed social worker" or "licensed clinical social worker" or a variation thereof;

5 (4) Employees of the West Virginia Department of Health and Human Resources engaged
6 in social work-like activities from doing social work consistent with their training: *Provided, That*
7 prior to engaging in these activities, employees demonstrate sufficient standards of qualification,
8 education, training and experience by completing a rigorous training program designed by the
9 Department of Health and Human Resources to ensure the protection of the health, welfare and
10 safety of the public;

11 (5) An employer from performing social work-like activities performed solely for the benefit
12 of employees;

13 (4) (6) Activities and services of a student, intern or resident in social work pursuing a
14 course of study at an accredited university or college or working in a generally recognized training
15 center if the activities and services constitute a part of the supervised course of study; and

16 (5) (7) Pending disposition of the application for a license, activities and services by a person
17 who has recently become a resident of this state, has applied for a license within ninety days of
18 taking up residency in this state, and is licensed to perform the activities and services in the state of
19 former residence.

(NOTE: The purpose of this bill is to clarify the exemptions provided by statute for social work licensing.

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Strike-throughs indicate language that would be stricken from the present law, and underscoring indicates new language that would be added.)