

**BOARD OF BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES
INITIAL STATEMENT OF REASONS**

HEARING DATE: None scheduled at this time.

**SUBJECT MATTER OF PROPOSED REGULATIONS: ALCOHOLISM AND OTHER
CHEMICAL SUBSTANCE
DEPENDENCY TRAINING**

SECTION AFFECTED: Amend Section 1810 of Division 18 of Title 16

SPECIFIC PURPOSE OF EACH ADOPTION, AMENDMENT OR REPEAL:

The amendments to this section will broaden the selection of entities from whom applicants pursuing a Marriage and Family Therapist license with education and experience from another state or a Licensed Clinical Social Work license may obtain the required coursework in alcoholism and other chemical substance dependency training. In addition, the regulation language will be restructured to provide a concise understanding of the requirements, and the regulation section title will be amended to reflect that, in addition to alcoholism, other chemical dependency training is also a requirement for licensure as a Marriage and Family Therapist or Licensed Clinical Social Worker.

FACTUAL BASIS:

Continuing Education Providers registered by the Board, licensed health facilities, and governmental entities often offer alcoholism and other chemical substance dependency to licensees and follow the requirements in Section 1810. Currently there is a pre-licensure requirement that an applicant complete fifteen hours of training or coursework in alcoholism and other chemical substance dependency. Regulation Section 1810 provides guidance as to where this training may be taken but does not include Board approved continuing education providers, licensed health facilities, or governmental entities as acceptable entities to offer the training. Additionally, the current regulation language is cumbersome and the regulation section title does not accurately reflect that "other chemical substance dependency" is a requirement for licensure.

The amendments to Section 1810 are necessary to expand the selection of entities from whom applicants can obtain this qualified training, delete unnecessary language, and correct the title of the regulation by adding the terms "and other chemical substance dependency".

UNDERLYING DATA:

Public discussion on the proposed changes occurred at the February 20, 2003 Licensing Committee meeting and the February 21, 2003 Board meeting.

BUSINESS IMPACT:

This regulation will not have a significant adverse economic impact on businesses.

SPECIFIC TECHNOLOGIES OR EQUIPMENT:

The proposed regulation does not mandate the use of specific technologies or equipment.

CONSIDERATION OF ALTERNATIVES:

No alternative which was considered would be either more effective than or equally as effective as and less burdensome to affected private persons than the proposed regulation.

Set forth below is the alternative, which was considered, and the reason the alternative was rejected:

Alternative #1:

Not amend the Alcoholism and Other Chemical Substance Dependency training and continue to limit the selection of entities from whom applicants can obtain the necessary training. This alternative was rejected because applicants are experiencing difficulties in locating qualified education providers that offer this training at a reasonable cost and additional entities would like to offer this required training to applicants.