

(approved November 9, 2001)

**BOARD OF BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES
FULL BOARD
REGULATION HEARING MINUTES**

APRIL 20, 2001

**DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS
400 R STREET, SUITE 1030
SACRAMENTO, CA**

MEMBERS PRESENT

Selma Fields, MFT Member, Board Chair
Karen Pines, MFT Member, Vice Chair
Mark Burdick, LEP Member
Christina Chen, Public Member
Roberto Quiroz, Public Member
Howard Stein, Public Member

MEMBERS ABSENT

Virginia Laurence, LCSW Member

STAFF PRESENT

Sherry Mehl, Executive Officer
LaVonne Powell, Legal Counsel
Julie McAuliife, Administrative Analyst

GUEST LIST ON FILE

SECTION 1887.3 – CONTINUING EDUCATION COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Ms. Powell opened the Hearing at 10:15 a.m. and provided the Board and the public with a brief description of the proposed regulatory action and an overview of the regulation hearing process.

Mary Riemersma, Executive Director of the California Association of Marriage and Family Therapist, stated that she had submitted her comment in writing and reiterated the written comment by asking the Board to add language to allow a licensee to claim credit if they took a six hour law and ethics course upon the effective date of the regulation or as of January 1, 2002. She stated that they could use this credit toward the requirement but not toward the required thirty-six hour continuing education requirement for the next particular renewal period. She indicated that there is similar language in the supervision training requirement regulation.

David Fox, Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist, stated that he thought the regulation proposal was fine as it currently read and people should not be allowed to credit experience prior to the date identified in the proposal.

Ms. Fields stated that other written comments were submitted. Richard Leslie had written a letter disagreeing with the need for a mandate of a six hour course in law and ethics every renewal cycle and suggested that if the Board chose to pursue the change, the language be amended to allow licensees to gain a collective six hours rather than one six hour course.

The Board briefly discussed Ms. Riemersma's suggested amendment. Mr. Fox stated that he recollected a prior discussion of the Board in which the Board expressed their intent of having the course in law and ethics include the most current law and ethic changes to ensure that licensees are provided with the most up to date information. Allowing a licensee to apply a course taken prior to the date identified in the regulation proposal would veer from the Board's initial intent. After further discussion, the Board chose to not amend the language as suggested by Ms. Riemersma.

Geraldine Esposito, Executive Director of the California Society for Clinical Social Work, stated that she agreed that if the Board chose to keep the course of law and ethics together instead of separating the topics, the completion should correspond with the renewal of a license.

Ms. Riemersma stated that she agreed with Mr. Leslie's suggested that the regulation should allow a licensee to collect a total of six hours in law and ethics every renewal cycle.

Mr. Fox stated that he was in favor of requiring one six hour course every renewal cycle.

The Board did choose to amend the language to allow licensees to collect a total of six hours in law and ethics rather than require that they complete one six-hour course.

SELMA FIELDS MOVED, KAREN PINES SECONDED, AND THE BOARD CONCURRED TO AMEND THE LANGUAGE TO ALLOW SIX ONE HOUR COURSES.

ROBERTO QUIROZ MOVED, HOWARD STEIN SECONDED, AND THE BOARD CONCURRED TO MODIFY THE PROPOSED LANGUAGE TO READ "ANY PERSON RENEWING HIS OR HER LICENSE ON AND AFTER JANUARY 1, 2004 SHALL HAVE COMPLETED NOT LESS THAN SIX (6) HOURS OF CONTINUING EDUCATION IN THE SUBJECT OF LAW AND ETHICS FOR EACH RENEWAL CYCLE. THE SIX (6) HOURS SHALL BE CONSIDERED PART OF THE THIRTY-SIX (36) HOUR CONTINUING EDUCATION REQUIREMENT.

The Hearing adjourned at 10:45 a.m.