

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
1985 SESSION

CHAPTER 695
HOUSE BILL 1024

AN ACT TO PERMIT LICENSED PSYCHOLOGISTS WITH AT LEAST TWO
YEARS CLINICAL EXPERIENCE TO CONDUCT INITIAL INVOLUNTARY
COMMITMENT EVALUATIONS.

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

Section 1. G.S. 122C-3 is amended by inserting two new subdivisions in the proper alphabetical order to read as follows:

"(13a) 'Eligible psychologist' means a licensed practicing psychologist who has at least two years clinical experience.

(30a) 'Psychologist' means an individual licensed to practice psychology under Chapter 90. The term 'eligible psychologist' is defined in subdivision (13a)."

Sec. 2. The following statutes are amended by inserting immediately after the word "physician" each time it appears the words "or eligible psychologist":

G.S. 122C-205(b)(4)

G.S. 122C-261(a), (b), and (f)

G.S. 122C-262

G.S. 122C-263(a), (b), (c), and (e)

G.S. 122C-266(e)

G.S. 122C-271(a)

G.S. 122C-274(c)(1)

G.S. 122C-281(a), (b), and (f)

G.S. 122C-282

G.S. 122C-283.

Sec. 3. G.S. 122C-253 is amended as follows:

(1) by inserting between the words "physician" and "or" in the first sentence of that section the phrase ", private psychologist,"; and

(2) by inserting between the words "physician" and "is" in the second sentence of that section the words "or private psychologist".

Sec. 4. G.S. 122C-261(d) and G.S. 122C-281(d) are each amended as follows:

(1) by inserting immediately after the word "physician" the first and third times it appears in those subsections the words "or eligible psychologist"; and

(2) by deleting the phrase "petitioner's recommendation is for" in the fourth sentences of those subsections and substituting the phrase "or eligible psychologist recommends".

Sec. 5. G.S. 122C-263(d) is amended as follows:

- (1) by inserting the words "or eligible psychologist" immediately after the word "physician" each time it appears in that subsection except the second time it appears in the second sentence of the subsection, which begins with the words "In addition"; and
- (2) by deleting the word "physician's" each time it appears and substituting the word "his".

Sec. 6. G.S. 122C-263(f) and 122C-265(a) are each amended by inserting immediately after the words "examining physician" each time they appear the words "or eligible psychologist".

Sec. 7. The first sentences of G.S. 122C-264(a) and (b) are each amended by inserting immediately after the word "physician's" the words "or eligible psychologist's".

Sec. 8. G.S. 122C-267(c), 122C-268(f), and 122C-286(c) are each amended by inserting immediately after the word "physicians" the words "and psychologists".

Sec. 9. G.S. 122C-283(d)(1) is amended as follows:

- (1) by deleting the word "physician's" the first time it appears and substituting the word "his"; and
- (2) by inserting immediately after the word "physician's" the second time it appears in that subdivision the words "or eligible psychologist's".

Sec. 10. G.S. 122C-284(a) is amended by inserting immediately after the word "physician's" the words "or eligible psychologist's".

Sec. 11. G.S. 122C-285(a) is amended by inserting a sentence immediately after the first sentence to read:

"This professional shall be a physician if the initial commitment evaluation was conducted by an eligible psychologist."

Sec. 12. G.S. 122C-313(a) is amended in the second sentence by inserting immediately after the words "staff psychiatrist" the words "or eligible psychologist".

Sec. 13. G.S. 122C-22(a)(1) is amended by deleting the phrase "duly licensed under Chapter 90 of the General Statutes and".

Sec. 14. G.S. 122C-241(b) is amended by deleting the phrase ", licensed practicing psychologist or psychological associate" and substituting the phrase "or psychologist".

Sec. 15. G.S. 122C-55(i) is amended by deleting the word "practicing" before the word "psychologist".

Sec. 16. This act shall become effective January 1, 1986.

In the General Assembly read three times and ratified, this the 11th day of July, 1985.