

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

SESSION 1999

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SENATE BILL 1062  
Corrected Copy 4/29/99

Short Title: Substance Abuse Certification.

(Public)

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Sponsors: Senator Metcalf.

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Referred to: Children & Human Resources.

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April 15, 1999

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT AUTHORIZING THE NORTH CAROLINA SUBSTANCE ABUSE  
2 PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATION BOARD TO DEFINE THE TERM CLINICAL  
3 SUPERVISOR INTERN AND AMENDING CERTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS  
4 FOR SUBSTANCE ABUSE PROFESSIONALS.  
5

6 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

7 Section 1. G.S. 90-113.31 reads as rewritten:

8 **"§ 90-113.31. Definitions.**

9 The following definitions shall apply in this Article:

- 10 (1) Board. – The North Carolina Substance Abuse Professional  
11 Certification Board.  
12 (1a) Certified clinical addictions specialist. – A person certified by the Board  
13 to practice as a clinical addictions specialist in accordance with the  
14 provisions of this Article.  
15 (1b) Certified clinical supervisor. – A person certified by the Board to  
16 practice as a clinical supervisor in accordance with the provisions of this  
17 Article.

- 1 (1c) Certified residential facility director. – A person certified by the Board  
2 to practice as a residential facility director in accordance with the  
3 provisions of this Article.
- 4 (2) Certified substance abuse counselor. – A person certified by the Board  
5 to practice as a substance abuse counselor in accordance with the  
6 provisions of this Article.
- 7 (3) Repealed by S.L. 1997-492, s. 2.
- 8 (3a) Certified substance abuse prevention consultant. – A person certified by  
9 the Board to practice substance abuse prevention in accordance with the  
10 provisions of this Article.
- 11 (4) Clinical supervisor intern. – A person designated by the Board to  
12 practice as a clinical supervisor intern for a period not to exceed three  
13 years without a showing of good cause in accordance with the  
14 provisions of this Article.
- 15 (4a) Credentialing body. – A board that licenses, certifies, or regulates a  
16 profession or practice.
- 17 (4b) Deemed status. – Recognition by the Board of the credentials offered by  
18 a professional discipline whereby the individuals certified, licensed, or  
19 otherwise recognized by the discipline as having met the standards of a  
20 substance abuse specialist may apply individually for certification as a  
21 certified clinical addictions specialist.
- 22 (4c) Human services field. – An area of study that focuses on the biological,  
23 psychological, and social aspects of human beings.
- 24 ~~(4d) Intern. — A person who successfully completes 300 hours of Board~~  
25 ~~approved supervised practical training and a written examination in~~  
26 ~~pursuit of certification as a substance abuse counselor.~~
- 27 (5) Prevention. – The reduction, delay, or avoidance of alcohol and of other  
28 drug use behavior. "Prevention" includes the promotion of positive  
29 environments and individual strengths that contribute to personal health  
30 and well-being over an entire life and the development of strategies that  
31 encourage individuals, families, and communities to take part in  
32 assessing and changing their lifestyle and environments.
- 33 (6) Professional discipline. – A field of study characterized by the technical,  
34 educational, and ethical standards of a profession.
- 35 (7) Substance abuse counseling. – The assessment, evaluation, and  
36 provision of counseling to persons suffering from substance, drug, or  
37 alcohol abuse or dependency.
- 38 (7a) Substance abuse counselor intern. – A person who successfully  
39 completes 300 hours of Board approved supervised practical training  
40 and a written examination in pursuit of certification as a substance abuse  
41 counselor.
- 42 (8) Substance abuse professional. – A certified substance abuse counselor,  
43 certified substance abuse prevention consultant, certified clinical

1 supervisor, certified clinical addictions specialist, or certified residential  
2 facility director."

3 Section 2. G.S. 90-113.32(b) reads as rewritten:

4 "(b) Until the full Board is elected or appointed pursuant to subsection (c) of this  
5 section, the Board shall consist of 16 members with one member appointed by the  
6 General Assembly upon the recommendation of the Speaker of the House of  
7 Representatives in accordance with G.S. 120-121, and one member appointed by the  
8 General Assembly upon the recommendation of the President Pro Tempore of the Senate  
9 in accordance with G.S. 120-121. The remaining 14 shall be those members of the  
10 current North Carolina Substance Abuse Professional Certification Board, Inc., who have  
11 terms that are unexpired as of the effective date of this Article. The initial Board shall  
12 appoint an initial Nominating and Elections Committee to fill immediate vacancies on the  
13 Board, using the process established in subsection (d) of this section. The election and  
14 appointment process of the initial Board shall result in a Board of 19 members by April 1,  
15 1995. As these initial ~~members~~"members" terms expire, their successors shall be appointed  
16 as described in subsection (c) of this section, until the permanent Board is established, as  
17 described in subsection (c) of this section. Time spent as an initial member counts in  
18 determining the limitation on consecutive terms prescribed in subsection (e) of this  
19 section."

20 Section 3. G.S. 90-113.32(c) reads as rewritten:

21 "(c) After the initial Board ~~members~~"members" terms expire, the Board shall consist  
22 of the following members, all of whom shall reside in North Carolina, appointed or  
23 elected as follows:

24 (1) Eleven professionals certified pursuant to this Article and elected by the  
25 certified professionals, at least two of whom shall serve each of the four  
26 Division of Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities, and Substance  
27 Abuse Services regions of the State. Three members shall serve as  
28 members at large.

29 (2) Three members at large chosen from laypersons or other professional  
30 disciplines who have shown a special interest in the field of substance  
31 abuse, nominated by the ~~Nominations~~—Nominating and Elections  
32 Committee established by subsection (d) of this section and elected by  
33 the Board.

34 (3) Two members from the Division of Mental Health, Developmental  
35 Disabilities, and Substance Abuse Services, Department of Health and  
36 Human Services, appointed by the Chief of Substance Abuse Services  
37 Section, Division of Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities, and  
38 Substance Abuse Services, Department of Health and Human Services,  
39 at least one of whom is from the Substance Abuse Services Section.

40 (4) One member of the public at large appointed by the Governor.

41 (5) One member of the public at large appointed by the General Assembly  
42 upon the recommendation of the Speaker of the House of  
43 Representatives in accordance with G.S. 120-121 and one member of

1 the public at large appointed by the General Assembly upon the  
2 recommendation of the President Pro Tempore of the Senate in  
3 accordance with G.S. 120-121.

- 4 (6) One member shall represent each of the professional disciplines granted  
5 deemed status under G.S. 90-113.41A. The member may be appointed  
6 by the professional discipline on or before a date set by the Board. If the  
7 professional discipline has at least one association in the State, the  
8 member shall be chosen from a list of nominees submitted to the  
9 association. The members appointed or elected under this subdivision  
10 shall be certified as substance abuse specialists by the professional  
11 discipline that the members represent.

12 No member of the General Assembly shall serve on the Board."

13 Section 4. G.S. 90-113.32(e) reads as rewritten:

14 "(e) Members of the Board shall serve for three-year terms. No Board member shall  
15 serve for more than two consecutive terms, but a person who has been a member for two  
16 consecutive terms may be reappointed after being off the Board for a period of at least  
17 one year. When a vacancy occurs in an unexpired term, the Board shall, as soon as  
18 practicable, appoint temporary members to serve until ~~the next membership election.~~ the  
19 end of the unexpired terms. Time spent as a temporary member does not count in  
20 determining the limitation on consecutive terms."

21 Section 5. G.S. 90-113.33 reads as rewritten:

22 "**§ 90-113.33. Board; powers and duties.**

23 The Board shall:

- 24 (1) Examine and determine the qualifications and fitness of applicants for  
25 certification to practice in this State.
- 26 (1a) Determine the qualifications and fitness of organizations applying for  
27 deemed status.
- 28 (2) Issue, renew, deny, suspend, or revoke certification to practice in this  
29 State or reprimand or otherwise discipline certificate holders in this  
30 State. Denial of an applicant's certification or the granting of  
31 certification on a probationary or other conditional status shall be  
32 subject to substantially the same rules and procedures prescribed by the  
33 Board for review and disciplinary actions against those persons holding  
34 certificates. Disciplinary actions involving a clinical addictions  
35 specialist whose certification is achieved through deemed status shall be  
36 initially heard by the specialist's credentialing body. The specialist may  
37 appeal the body's decision to the Board. The Board shall, however, have  
38 the authority to hear the initial disciplinary action involving a clinical  
39 addictions specialist.
- 40 (3) Deal with issues concerning reciprocity.
- 41 (4) Conduct investigations for the purpose of determining whether  
42 violations of this Article or grounds for disciplining exists.

- 1 (5) Employ the professional and clerical personnel necessary to carry out  
2 the provisions of this Article. The Board may purchase or rent necessary  
3 office space, equipment, and supplies.
- 4 (6) Conduct administrative hearings in accordance with Chapter 150B of  
5 the General Statutes when a "contested case", as defined in Chapter  
6 150B, arises.
- 7 (7) Appoint from its own membership one or more members to act as  
8 representatives of the Board at any meeting in which it considers this  
9 representation is desirable.
- 10 (8) Establish fees for applications for examination, certificates of  
11 certification and renewal, and other services provided by the Board.
- 12 (9) Adopt any rules necessary to carry out the purpose of this Article and its  
13 duties and responsibilities pursuant to this Article.

14 The powers and duties enumerated in this section are granted for the purposes of  
15 enabling the Board to safeguard the public health, safety, and welfare against unqualified  
16 or incompetent practitioners and are to be liberally construed to accomplish this  
17 objective. When the Board exercises its authority under this Article to discipline a person,  
18 it may, as part of the decision imposing the discipline, charge the costs of investigations  
19 and the hearing to the person disciplined."

20 Section 6. Article 5C of Chapter 90 of the General Statutes is amended by  
21 adding a new section to read:

22 "**§ 90-113.33A. Officers may administer oaths, and subpoena witnesses, records,**  
23 **and other materials.**

24 The President or other presiding officer of the Board may administer oaths to all  
25 persons appearing before it as the Board may deem necessary to perform its duties, and  
26 may summon and issue subpoenas for the appearance of any witnesses deemed necessary  
27 to testify concerning any matter to be heard before or inquired into by the Board. The  
28 Board may order that any client records, documents, or other materials concerning any  
29 matter to be heard before or inquired into by the Board shall be produced before the  
30 Board or made available for inspection, notwithstanding any other provisions of law  
31 providing for the application of any privilege with respect to such records, documents, or  
32 other materials. All records, documents, or other materials compiled by the Board are  
33 subject to the provisions of G.S. 90-113.34, except that in any proceeding before the  
34 Board, record of any hearing before the Board, and notice of charges against any person  
35 certified by the Board, the Board shall withhold from public disclosure the identity of a  
36 client, including information relating to dates and places of treatment, or any other  
37 information that tends to identify the client unless the client or the client's representative  
38 has expressly consented to the disclosure. Upon written request, the Board shall revoke a  
39 subpoena if, upon a hearing, it finds that the evidence sought does not relate to a matter in  
40 issue, the subpoena does not describe the evidence with sufficient particularity, or the  
41 subpoena is invalid."

42 Section 7. G.S. 90-113.34 reads as rewritten:

43 "**§ 90-113.34. Records to be kept; copies of records.**

1       ~~The Board shall obtain documentation of all proceedings under this Article and a~~  
2 ~~record of all persons certified under it. The record~~ (a) The Board shall keep a regular  
3 record of its proceedings, together with the names of the members of the Board present,  
4 the names of the applicants for certification, and other information relevant to its actions.  
5 The Board shall cause a record to be kept that shall show the name, last known place of  
6 business, last known place of residence, and date and number of the certificate of  
7 certification as a certified substance abuse counselor, certified substance abuse  
8 prevention consultant, certified clinical supervisor, certified clinical addictions specialist,  
9 or certified residential facility director for every living certified person. Any interested  
10 person in the State is entitled to obtain a copy of that record on application to the Board  
11 and upon payment of a reasonable charge that is based on the costs involved in providing  
12 the copy. ~~The Board shall keep a hard copy of all records.~~

13       (b) The Board may in a closed session receive evidence regarding the provision of  
14 substance abuse counseling or other treatment and services provided to a client who has  
15 not expressly or through implication consented to the public disclosure of such treatment  
16 as may be necessary for the protection of the rights of the client or of the accused  
17 substance abuse professional and the full presentation of relevant evidence. All records,  
18 papers, and other documents containing information collected and compiled by the  
19 Board, its members, or employees as a result of investigations, inquiries, or interviews  
20 conducted in connection with a certification or disciplinary matter shall not be considered  
21 public records within the meaning of Chapter 132 of the General Statutes, except any  
22 notice or statement of charges, or notice of hearing shall be a public record  
23 notwithstanding that it may contain information collected and compiled as a result of an  
24 investigation, inquiry, or interview. If any record, paper, or other document containing  
25 information collected and compiled by the Board as provided in this subsection is  
26 received and admitted in evidence in any hearing before the Board, it shall thereupon be a  
27 public record.

28       (c) Notwithstanding any provision to the contrary, the Board may, in any  
29 proceeding, record of any hearing, and notice of charges, withhold from public disclosure  
30 the identity of a client who has not expressly or through implication consented to such  
31 disclosure of treatment by the accused substance abuse professional."

32       Section 8. G.S. 90-113.37 reads as rewritten:

33       **"§ 90-113.37. Renewal of certification; lapse; revival.**

34       (a) Every person certified pursuant to this Article who desires to maintain  
35 certification status shall apply to the Board for a renewal of certification every other year  
36 and pay to the secretary-treasurer the prescribed fee. Renewal of certification is subject to  
37 completion of no more than 60 hours of those continuing education requirements  
38 established by the Board. A clinical supervisor shall ~~also~~ complete 15 hours of substance  
39 abuse clinical supervision ~~or~~ training prior to the certificate being renewed. Certification  
40 that is not renewed automatically lapses, unless the Board provides for the late renewal of  
41 certification upon the payment of a late fee. No late renewal shall be granted more than  
42 five years after a certification expires. A suspended certification is subject to this  
43 section's renewal requirements and may be renewed as provided in this section. This

1 renewal does not entitle the certified person to engage in the certified activity or in any  
2 other conduct or activity in violation of the order or judgment by which the certification  
3 was suspended, until the certification is reinstated. If a certification revoked on  
4 disciplinary grounds is reinstated and requires renewal, the certified person shall pay the  
5 renewal fee and any applicable late fee.

6 (b) The Board shall establish the manner in which lapsed certification may be  
7 revived or extended."

8 Section 9. G.S. 90-113.39 reads as rewritten:

9 **"§ 90-113.39. Standards for certification.**

10 The Board shall establish standards for certification of substance abuse professionals.  
11 The certification standards of the ~~International Certification Reciprocity Consortium/Alcohol~~  
12 ~~and Other Drug Abuse-International Certification and Reciprocity Consortium/Alcohol and~~  
13 ~~Other Drug Abuse, Incorporated~~ and the standards adopted by professional disciplines  
14 granted deemed status or their successor organizations may be used as guidelines for the  
15 Board's standards. The Board shall publish these required standards separately from its  
16 rules so as to provide easy access to the standards."

17 Section 10. G.S. 90-113.40 reads as rewritten:

18 **"§ 90-113.40. Requirements for certification.**

19 (a) The Board shall issue a certificate certifying an applicant as a 'Certified  
20 Substance Abuse Counselor' or as a 'Certified Substance Abuse Prevention Consultant' if:

- 21 (1) The applicant is of good moral character.
- 22 (2) The applicant is not and has not engaged in any practice or conduct that  
23 would be grounds for disciplinary action under G.S. 90-113.44.
- 24 (3) The applicant is qualified for certification pursuant to the requirements  
25 of this Article and any rules adopted pursuant to it.
- 26 (4) The applicant has, at a minimum, a high school diploma or a high  
27 school equivalency certificate.
- 28 (5) The applicant has signed a form attesting to the intention to adhere fully  
29 to the ethical standards adopted by the Board.
- 30 (6) The applicant has completed 270 hours of Board-approved education.  
31 The Board may prescribe that a certain number of hours be in a course  
32 of study for substance abuse counseling and that a certain number of  
33 hours be in a course of study for substance abuse prevention consulting.
- 34 (7) The applicant has documented completion of a minimum of 300 hours  
35 of Supervised Practical Training and has provided a Board-approved  
36 supervision contract between the applicant and an approved supervisor.
- 37 (8) The applicant for substance abuse counselor has completed either a total  
38 of 6,000 hours of supervised experience in the field, whether paid or  
39 volunteer, or, if a graduate of a Board-approved master's degree  
40 program, a total of 3,000 hours of supervised experience in the field,  
41 whether paid or volunteer. The applicant for substance abuse  
42 prevention consultant has completed a total of 10,000 hours supervised  
43 experience in the field, whether paid or volunteer, or 4,000 hours if the

1 applicant has at least a bachelors degree in a human services ~~field~~ field  
2 from a regionally accredited college or university.

3 (9) The applicant has successfully completed a written examination and an  
4 oral examination promulgated and administered by the Board.

5 (b) The Board shall issue a certificate certifying an individual as a 'Certified  
6 Clinical Supervisor' if, in addition to meeting the requirements of subdivisions (a)(1)  
7 through (5) of this section, the applicant:

8 (1) ~~Has been certified as a substance abuse counselor or a clinical~~  
9 ~~addictions specialist.~~

10 Submits proof of designation by the Board as a clinical supervisor  
11 intern.

12 (2) Prior to June 30, 1998, the applicant presents proof that the applicant  
13 has 12,000 hours experience in alcohol and drug abuse counseling and a  
14 bachelors degree or 8,000 hours experience in alcohol and drug abuse  
15 counseling and a minimum of a master's degree. After June 30, 1998,  
16 the applicant shall present proof that the applicant has a minimum of a  
17 master's ~~degree~~ degree in a human services field with a clinical  
18 application from a regionally accredited college or university.

19 (3) Has 6,000 hours experience as a substance abuse clinical supervisor if  
20 the applicant has a bachelors degree or 4,000 hours experience if the  
21 applicant has a master's ~~degree~~ degree in a human services field with a  
22 clinical application from a regionally accredited college or university.

23 (4) Has 30 hours of substance abuse clinical supervision specific education  
24 or training. These hours shall be reflective of the 12 core functions in  
25 the applicant's clinical application and practice and may also be counted  
26 toward the applicant's recertification as a substance abuse counselor.

27 (5) Submits a letter of reference from a professional who can attest to the  
28 applicant's supervisory competence and two letters of reference from  
29 either counselors who have been supervised by the applicant or  
30 professionals who can attest to the applicant's competence.

31 (6) Successfully completes a written examination administered by the  
32 Board.

33 (b1) The Board shall designate an applicant as a 'Clinical Supervisor Intern' if, in  
34 addition to meeting the requirements of subdivisions (a)(1) through (5) of this section, the  
35 applicant meets the following qualifications:

36 (1) Submits an application, resume, and official transcript showing that the  
37 applicant has obtained a master's degree in a human services field with a  
38 clinical application from a regionally accredited college or university.

39 (2) Submits verification statements.

40 (3) Submits proof of certification as a certified substance abuse counselor  
41 or a certified clinical addictions specialist.



- 1           (4)    Submits documentation establishing that the applicant has completed at  
2           least fifty percent (50%) of the required clinical supervision specific  
3           training hours as defined by the Board.
- 4           (c)    The Board shall issue a certificate certifying an applicant as a 'Certified  
5   Clinical Addictions Specialist' if, in addition to meeting the requirements of subdivisions  
6   (a) (1) through (5) of this section, the applicant meets one of the following criteria:
- 7           (1)    Criteria A. – The applicant:
- 8           a.    Has a minimum ~~of~~ a master's degree with a clinical application  
9           in a human services field. ~~field~~ from a regionally accredited  
10          college or university.
- 11          b.    Has two years postgraduate supervised substance abuse  
12          counseling experience.
- 13          c.    Submits three letters of reference from certified clinical  
14          addictions specialists or certified substance abuse ~~professionals.~~  
15          counselors who have obtained master's degrees.
- 16          d.    Has achieved a combined score set by the Board on a master's  
17          level written and oral examination administered by the Board.
- 18          e.    Has attained 180 hours of substance abuse specific training as  
19          described in G.S. 90-113.41A.
- 20          f.    The applicant has documented completion of a minimum of 300  
21          hours of supervised practical training and has provided a Board-  
22          approved supervision contract between the applicant and an  
23          approved supervisor.
- 24          (2)    Criteria B. – The applicant:
- 25          a.    Has a minimum of a master's degree with a clinical application in  
26          a human services ~~field.~~ field from a regionally accredited college  
27          or university.
- 28          b.    Has been certified as a substance abuse counselor.
- 29          c.    Has one year of postgraduate supervised substance abuse  
30          counseling experience.
- 31          d.    Has achieved a passing score on a master's level written  
32          examination administered by the Board.
- 33          e.    Submits three letters of reference from certified clinical  
34          addictions specialists or certified substance abuse ~~professionals.~~  
35          counselors who have obtained master's degrees.
- 36          (3)    Criteria C. – The applicant:
- 37          a.    Has a minimum of a master's degree in a human services field  
38          with a clinical application and a substance abuse specialty from a  
39          regionally accredited college or university that includes 180  
40          hours of substance abuse specific education and training pursuant  
41          to G.S. ~~113.41A.~~ 90-113.41A.
- 42          b.    Has one year of postgraduate supervised substance abuse  
43          counseling experience.

1 c. Has achieved a passing score on an oral examination  
2 administered by the Board.

3 d. Submits three letters of reference from certified clinical  
4 addictions specialists or certified substance abuse ~~professionals-~~  
5 counselors who have obtained master's degrees.

6 (4) Criteria D. – The applicant has a substance abuse certification from a  
7 professional discipline that has been granted deemed status by the  
8 Board.

9 (d) The Board shall issue a certificate certifying an applicant as a 'Certified  
10 Residential Facility Director' if, in addition to meeting the requirements of subdivisions  
11 (a)(1) through (5) of this section, the applicant:

12 (1) Has been certified as a substance abuse ~~counselor-~~counselor or a clinical  
13 addictions specialist.

14 (2) Has 50 hours of Board approved academic or didactic management  
15 specific training or a combination thereof.

16 (3) Submits letters of reference from the applicant's current supervisor and a  
17 colleague or coworker.

18 (e) The Board shall publish from time to time information in order to provide  
19 specifics for potential applicants of an acceptable educational curriculum and the terms of  
20 acceptable supervised fieldwork experience.

21 (f) Effective until January 1, 2001, any person who is certified as a certified  
22 clinical supervisor or who functions by his or her job description as a certified clinical  
23 supervisor shall be qualified to supervise applicants for certified clinical supervisor.

24 Effective from January 1, 2001 until January 1, 2003, only a person who is certified  
25 both as a certified clinical supervisor and as a certified clinical addictions specialist shall  
26 be qualified to supervise applicants for certified clinical addictions specialist, but a  
27 person who is certified as a certified clinical supervisor or a certified clinical addictions  
28 specialist shall be qualified to supervise an applicant for certification as a certified  
29 substance abuse counselor.

30 Effective January 1, 2003, only a person who is certified as a certified clinical  
31 supervisor or a clinical supervisor intern shall be qualified to supervise applicants for  
32 certified clinical supervisor and certified substance abuse counselor and applicants for  
33 certified clinical addictions specialist who meet the qualifications of their credential other  
34 than through deemed status as provided in G.S. 90-113.40(c)(4)."

35 Section 11. G.S. 90-113.41 reads as rewritten:

36 "**§ 90-113.41. Examination.**

37 (a) Except for those individuals applying for certification under G.S. 90-113.41A,  
38 applicants for certification under this Article shall file an application at least 60 days prior  
39 to the date of examination and upon the forms and in the manner prescribed by the Board.  
40 The application shall be accompanied by the appropriate fee. No portion of this fee is  
41 refundable. Applicants who fail an examination may apply for reexamination upon the  
42 payment of another examination fee.

1 (b) Each applicant for certification under this Article shall be examined in an  
2 examination that is consistent with the examination requirements of the ~~International~~  
3 ~~Certification Reciprocity Consortium/Alcohol and Other Drug Abuse International~~  
4 Certification and Reciprocity Consortium/Alcohol and Other Drug Abuse, Incorporated  
5 and the standards adopted by professional disciplines granted deemed ~~status~~. status or  
6 their successor organizations.

7 (c) Applicants for certification shall be examined at a time and place and under the  
8 supervision that the Board determines. Examinations shall be given in this State at least  
9 twice each year.

10 (d) Applicants may obtain their examination scores and may review their  
11 examination papers in accordance with rules the Board ~~adopts~~. adopts and agreements  
12 between Board-authorized test development companies."

13 Section 12. This act becomes effective October 1, 1999.