

By: Madden

H.B. No. 279

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the continuing education requirements for a licensed chemical dependency counselor.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1. Section 504.205(b), Occupations Code, is amended to read as follows:

(b) As a prerequisite for renewal of a license issued under this chapter, a license holder, other than a license holder subject to Subsection (c), must participate in the continuing education program and complete ~~[at least 60 hours of]~~ continuing education hours in each two-year licensing period as follows:

(1) 60 hours if the license holder holds an associate degree;

(2) 36 hours if the license holder holds a bachelor's degree; and

(3) 24 hours if the license holder holds a master's degree or a more advanced degree.

SECTION 2. (a) The change in law made by this Act applies to the renewal of a license under Chapter 504, Occupations Code, that expires on or after January 1, 2008. The renewal of a license that expires before that date is governed by the law in effect immediately before the effective date of this Act, and the former law is continued in effect for that purpose.

(b) The executive commissioner of the Health and Human

1 Services Commission shall adopt rules and the Department of State
2 Health Services shall adopt procedures necessary to implement
3 Section 504.205(b), Occupations Code, as amended by this Act, not
4 later than November 1, 2007.

5 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2007.