

By: Romero, Jr.

H.B. No. 3995

Substitute the following for H.B. No. 3995:

By: Crownover

C.S.H.B. No. 3995

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the practice of marriage and family therapy.

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

SECTION 1. Subchapter A, Chapter 502, Occupations Code, is amended by adding Section 502.0021 to read as follows:

Sec. 502.0021. PRACTICE OF MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPY.

(a) "Marriage and family therapy" means the provision of professional therapy services to individuals, families, or married couples, alone or in groups, that involve applying family systems theories and techniques, including the evaluation and remediation of cognitive, affective, behavioral, or relational dysfunction in the context of marriage or family systems.

(b) The practice of marriage and family therapy may include the use of the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders, the International Classification of Diseases, and other diagnostic classification systems and the use of billing codes in connection with those systems for evaluation, classification, treatment, and other activities by a person licensed under this chapter, in connection with a claim for payment or reimbursement from a health insurance policy issuer or other payor.

(c) The practice of marriage and family therapy does not include prescribing medication, treating a physical disease, or providing any service outside the scope of practice of a licensed marriage and family therapist or licensed marriage and family

1 therapist associate.

2 SECTION 2. Section 21.003(b), Education Code, is amended to
3 read as follows:

4 (b) Except as otherwise provided by this subsection, a
5 person may not be employed by a school district as an audiologist,
6 occupational therapist, physical therapist, physician, nurse,
7 school psychologist, associate school psychologist, licensed
8 professional counselor, marriage and family therapist, social
9 worker, or speech language pathologist unless the person is
10 licensed by the state agency that licenses that profession and may
11 perform specific services within those professions for a school
12 district only if the person holds the appropriate credential from
13 the appropriate state agency. As long as a person employed by a
14 district before September 1, 2011, to perform marriage and family
15 therapy under Chapter 502 [~~, as defined by Section 502.002~~],
16 Occupations Code, is employed by the same district, the person is
17 not required to hold a license as a marriage and family therapist to
18 perform marriage and family therapy with that district.

19 SECTION 3. Section 502.002(6), Occupations Code, is
20 repealed.

21 SECTION 4. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
22 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
23 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
24 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
25 Act takes effect September 1, 2015.