

Amend **HB 2598** (house committee report) by adding the following appropriately numbered SECTIONS to the bill and renumbering subsequent SECTIONS of the bill accordingly:

SECTION _____. Section 61.601, Education Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 61.601. DEFINITION. In this subchapter, "mental health professional" means:

(1) a licensed physician who is:

(A) a graduate of an accredited psychiatric residency training program; or

(B) certified in psychiatry by:

(i) the American Board of Psychiatry and Neurology; or

(ii) the American Osteopathic Board of Neurology and Psychiatry;

(2) a psychologist, as defined by Section 501.002, Occupations Code;

(3) a licensed professional counselor, as defined by Section 503.002, Occupations Code;

(4) an advanced practice registered nurse, as defined by Section 301.152, Occupations Code, who holds a nationally recognized board certification in psychiatric or mental health nursing;

(5) a licensed clinical social worker, as defined by Section 505.002, Occupations Code;

(6) a ~~[licensed specialist in]~~ school psychologist ~~[psychology]~~, as defined by Section 501.002, Occupations Code;

(7) a chemical dependency counselor, as defined by Section 504.001, Occupations Code; and

(8) a licensed marriage and family therapist, as defined by Section 502.002, Occupations Code.

SECTION _____. Section 61.607(b), Education Code, is amended to read as follows:

(b) The total amount of repayment assistance received by a mental health professional under this subchapter may not exceed:

(1) \$160,000, for assistance from the state received by a licensed physician;

(2) \$80,000, for assistance from the state received by:

(A) a psychologist;

(B) a licensed clinical social worker, if the social worker has received a doctoral degree related to social work;

(C) a licensed professional counselor, if the counselor has received a doctoral degree related to counseling; or

(D) a licensed marriage and family therapist, if the marriage and family therapist has received a doctoral degree related to marriage and family therapy;

(3) \$60,000, for assistance from the state received by an advanced practice registered nurse;

(4) \$40,000, for assistance from the state received by:

(A) a licensed clinical social worker, a licensed marriage and family therapist, or a licensed professional counselor who is not described by Subdivision (2); or

(B) a ~~[licensed specialist in]~~ school psychologist ~~[psychology]~~; and

(5) \$10,000, for assistance from the state received by a licensed chemical dependency counselor, if the chemical dependency counselor has received an associate degree related to chemical dependency counseling or behavioral science.

SECTION _____. Section 411.12502(a), Government Code, is amended to read as follows:

(a) The Texas Behavioral Health Executive Council is entitled to obtain criminal history record information as provided by Subsection (b) that relates to a person who is an applicant for or licensed as:

(1) a licensed psychologist, licensed psychological associate, or ~~[licensed specialist in]~~ school psychologist ~~[psychology]~~ under Chapter 501, Occupations Code;

(2) a licensed marriage and family therapist or licensed marriage and family therapist associate under Chapter 502, Occupations Code;

(3) a licensed professional counselor or licensed

professional counselor associate under Chapter 503, Occupations Code; or

(4) a licensed baccalaureate social worker, licensed master social worker, or licensed clinical social worker under Chapter 505, Occupations Code.