

2025 Regular Session

SENATE BILL NO. 153

BY SENATOR SELDERS

Prefiled pursuant to Article III, Section 2(A)(4)(b)(i) of the Constitution of Louisiana.

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH. Provides relative to behavioral health rehabilitation services in the Louisiana medical assistance program. (gov sig)

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 37:1107(A)(5) and (F), 1116(B)(3) and (C), 2707(A)(3) and  
3 2724(B) and R.S. 40:2162(D)(2)(c) and to enact R.S. 40:2162(D)(2)(d), relative to  
4 behavioral health rehabilitation services in the Louisiana medical assistance  
5 program; to provide for limited licenses for certain individuals to provide CPST  
6 services; and to provide for related matters.

7 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

8 Section 1. R.S. 37:1107(A)(5) and (F), 1116(B)(3) and (C), 2707(A)(3) and 2724(B)  
9 are hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

10 §1107. Requirements for licensed professional counselor; provisional license;  
11 temporary license or temporary provisional license; renewal of  
12 license or temporary provisional license

13 A. The board shall issue a license to each applicant who files an application  
14 upon a form and in such manner as the board prescribes, accompanied by such fee  
15 as required by R.S. 37:1106, and who furnishes satisfactory evidence to the board  
16 that the applicant:

17 \* \* \*

1           (5) Has declared special competencies and demonstrated professional  
2 competence therein by passing a written and, at the discretion of the board, an oral  
3 examination, as the board shall prescribe, **except as provided in Paragraph (F)(2)**  
4 **of this Section.**

\* \* \*

6           F.**(1)** The board may issue a provisional license as a provisional licensed  
7 professional counselor to an applicant who meets qualifications established by the  
8 board. The board shall adopt rules pursuant to the Administrative Procedure Act  
9 establishing such qualifications and requirements for the issuance of a provisional  
10 license as necessary for the adequate protection of the health and welfare of the  
11 residents of this state. Such qualifications shall include, at a minimum, that the  
12 applicant shall be at least twenty-one years old, of good moral character, in  
13 compliance with all applicable provisions of law or board regulations, and possess  
14 a graduate degree the substance of which is mental health counseling.

15           **(2) At the end of the provisional license period prescribed by the board,**  
16 **any provisionally licensed counselor who has provided CPST services pursuant**  
17 **to R.S. 40:2162 and who meets all the qualifications for licensure except for the**  
18 **provisions of Paragraph (A)(5) of this Section shall be issued a limited scope**  
19 **license that authorizes the individual to only provide CPST services in**  
20 **accordance with R.S. 40:2162.**

\* \* \*

22 §1116. Licensure application for marriage and family therapists; provisional license;  
23 temporary license or temporary provisional license

\* \* \*

25           B. An applicant who meets the requirements of Subsection A of this Section  
26 shall be recommended by the advisory committee to the board for issuance of a  
27 license by the board upon providing satisfactory evidence to the advisory committee  
28 that such person meets the following requirements:

\* \* \*

1 (3) Passage of an examination approved by the board, **except as provided**  
2 **in Paragraph (C)(2) of this Section.**

3 C.**(1)** The board may issue a provisional license as a provisional licensed  
4 marriage and family therapist to an applicant who meets qualifications established  
5 by the board. The board shall adopt rules pursuant to the Administrative Procedure  
6 Act establishing such qualifications and requirements as necessary for the adequate  
7 protection of the health and welfare of the residents of this state. Such qualifications  
8 shall include, at a minimum, that the applicant shall be at least twenty-one years old,  
9 of good moral character, in compliance with applicable provisions of law or board  
10 regulations, and possess a graduate degree in marriage and family therapy, or a  
11 related clinical mental health field from a regionally accredited institution of higher  
12 education, or a certificate from a postgraduate training institute in marriage and  
13 family therapy.

14 **(2) At the end of the provisional license period prescribed by the board,**  
15 **any provisionally licensed marriage and family therapist who has provided**  
16 **CPST services pursuant to R.S. 40:2162 and who meets all the qualifications for**  
17 **licensure except for the provisions of Paragraph (B)(3) of this Section shall be**  
18 **issued a limited scope license that authorizes the individual to only provide**  
19 **CPST services in accordance with R.S. 40:2162.**

20 \* \* \*

21 §2707. Qualifications; licensed master's social worker

22 A. No individual shall be eligible for licensure by the board as a licensed  
23 master's social worker unless the individual:

24 \* \* \*

25 (3) Has passed an examination approved by the board, **except as provided**  
26 **in R.S. 37:2724(B)(2).**

27 \* \* \*

28 §2724. Qualification; certified social worker

29 \* \* \*

1           B.~~(1)~~ The board may issue a social worker certificate to an individual who  
 2 has completed all requirements for certification as a certified social worker. The  
 3 individual may hold the certificate for no more than three years from the issuance of  
 4 the original certificate.

5           **(2) At the end of the three-year certification period, any certified social**  
 6 **worker who has provided CPST services pursuant to R.S. 40:2162 and who**  
 7 **meets all the qualifications for licensure as a licensed master's social worker**  
 8 **except for the provisions of R.S. 37:2707(A)(3) shall be issued a limited scope**  
 9 **license that authorizes the individual to only provide CPST services in**  
 10 **accordance with R.S. 40:2162.**

11                                   \*       \*       \*

12           Section 2. R.S. 40:2162(D)(2)(c) is hereby amended and reenacted and R.S.  
 13 40:2162(D)(2)(d) is hereby enacted to read as follows:

14           §2162. Specialized behavioral health rehabilitation services in the Louisiana medical  
 15 assistance program

16                                   \*       \*       \*

17           D. In order to be eligible to receive Medicaid reimbursement, all behavioral  
 18 health services providers shall ensure that any individual rendering PSR or CPST  
 19 services for the licensed and accredited provider agency meets all of the following  
 20 requirements:

21                                   \*       \*       \*

22           (2)

23                                   \*       \*       \*

24           (c) Any individual rendering the assessment and treatment planning  
 25 components of CPST services for a licensed and accredited provider agency shall be  
 26 a fully licensed mental health professional.

27           **(d)** Any individual rendering any of the other components of CPST services  
 28 for a licensed and accredited provider agency shall be a fully licensed mental health  
 29 professional, a provisionally licensed professional counselor, a provisionally licensed

1 marriage and family therapist, a licensed master social worker, a certified social  
 2 worker, ~~or~~ a psychology intern from an American Psychological Association  
 3 approved internship program, **or an individual issued a limited scope license**  
 4 **pursuant to R.S. 37:1107(F)(2), 1116(C)(2), or 2724(B)(2).**

5 \* \* \*

6 Section 2. This Act shall become effective upon signature by the governor or, if not  
 7 signed by the governor, upon expiration of the time for bills to become law without signature  
 8 by the governor, as provided by Article III, Section 18 of the Constitution of Louisiana. If  
 9 vetoed by the governor and subsequently approved by the legislature, this Act shall become  
 10 effective on the day following such approval.

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The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part  
 of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Senate Legislative Services.  
 The keyword, summary, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof  
 or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

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#### DIGEST

SB 153 Engrossed

2025 Regular Session

Selders

Present law defines "Community psychiatric support and treatment services" (CPST services) as CMS-approved Medicaid mental health rehabilitation services designed to reduce disability from mental illness, restore functional skills of daily living, build natural supports, and achieve identified person-centered goals or objectives through counseling, clinical psycho-education, and ongoing monitoring needs as set forth in an individualized treatment plan.

Present law provides that, in order to be eligible to receive Medicaid reimbursement, all behavioral health services providers shall ensure that any individual rendering CPST services for the provider agency meets certain enumerated requirements.

Present law authorizes the La. Licensed Professional Counselors Board of Examiners to issue a provisionally licensed professional counselor license to an individual who meets qualifications established by the board.

Proposed law provides that at the end of the provisional license period prescribed by the board, any provisionally licensed counselor who has provided CPST services in accordance with present law and who meets all the qualifications for licensure, except for passing a written or oral examination required by the board, shall be issued a limited scope license that authorizes the individual to only provide CPST services.

Present law authorizes the La. Licensed Professional Counselors Board of Examiners to issue a provisional marriage and family therapist license to an individual who meets qualifications established by the board.

Proposed law provides that at the end of the provisional license period prescribed by the board, any provisionally licensed marriage and family therapist who has provided CPST services in accordance with present law and who meets all the qualifications for licensure, except for passing a board-approved examination, shall be issued a limited scope license that

authorizes the individual to only provide CPST services.

Present law authorizes the La. State Board of Social Work Examiners to issue a certified social worker certification for up to three years to an individual who is pursuing a master's social work license and meets qualifications established by the board.

Proposed law provides that at the end of the three-year period, any certified social worker who has provided CPST services in accordance with present law and who meets all the qualifications for licensure, except for passing a board-approved examination, shall be issued a limited scope license that authorizes the individual to only provide CPST services.

Present law requires any individual rendering any components of CPST services, except for assessment and treatment planning components, to be a fully licensed mental health professional, a provisionally licensed professional counselor, a provisionally licensed marriage and family therapist, a licensed master social worker, a certified social worker, or a psychology intern from an American Psychological Association approved internship program.

Proposed law adds that individuals who have been issued a limited scope professional counselor, marriage and family therapist, or social worker license may also provide the CPST services in the same manner as a provisionally licensed professional counselor, a provisionally licensed marriage and family therapist, or a certified social worker.

Effective upon signature of the governor or lapse of time for gubernatorial action.

(Amends R.S. 37:1107(A)(5) and (F), 1116(B)(3) and (C), 2707(A)(3) and 2724(B) and R.S. 40:2162(D)(2)(c); adds R.S. 40:2162(D)(2)(d))