

02/03/2013

# FACT SHEET 2013 LEGISLATURE / BOARD BILL HB 2082 (LC 340)

### **Problems Addressed:**

- 2009 Social Work Regulatory Reforms (Senate Bill 177) permitted voluntary licensure for non-clinical practice at the Bachelor (RBSW) and Masters (LMSW) level, but did not provide definitions for practice at that level
- 2009 Social Work Regulatory Reform also did not update the clinical social work definition dating back to 1977
- No Board representation for those licensed or certified as LMSW, RBSW or CSWA
- Civil penalty provisions dispersed in different sections of statute

# **Proposed Solution:**

- Adopts national model language for all levels of social work practice as developed by the Association of Social Work Boards (ASWB) over ten years (1996-2006), as originally proposed by the Board in Senate Bill 177 (2009), with some changes reflecting on-going discussions with stakeholders and the Board
- Permits service in at least one existing Board professional position for those licensed or certified as LMSW, RBSW or CSWA, retaining current size of Board
- Consolidation of civil penalty authority language without substantive changes

### Impact of Proposed Solution:

- Provides clarity of content and scope for non-clinical social work (RBSW, LMSW)
- Provides shorter, clearer scope language for clinical social work (CSWA, LCSW)
- Allows for the first time Board representation for LMSWs/RBSWs/CSWAs
- Clarifies civil penalty authority through consolidation in one statutory section
- No changes to the current limited, clinical social work only, practice act
- No changes to exemptions from clinical social work licensure requirement
- Does not impact insurance panel eligibility for LCSWs
- Retains voluntary licensure options (LMSW, RBSW) for non-clinical social work
- Retains protection for "social worker" title (requires SW degree and licensure)

# Additional Information:

- Concept has been vetted with key stakeholders of the Board
- Narrow scope and drafting eliminates fiscal impact on Board and stakeholders

# Contact for this Draft Legislative Concept:

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