
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 978 Session of
2011

INTRODUCED BY BISHOP AND M. O'BRIEN, MARCH 8, 2011

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES, MARCH 8, 2011

AN ACT

1 Authorizing employment of certain persons as drug and alcohol
2 counselors based solely on their previous work or life
3 experience; abrogating a regulation; and making inconsistent
4 repeals.

5 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
6 hereby enacts as follows:

7 Section 1. Short title.

8 This act shall be known and may be cited as the Drug and
9 Alcohol Counselor Qualification Through Work and Life Experience
10 Act.

11 Section 2. Qualifications.

12 Notwithstanding any of the provisions of the act of May 17,
13 1921 (P.L.682, No.284), known as The Insurance Company Law of
14 1921, Articles IX and X of the act of June 13, 1967 (P.L.31,
15 No.21), known as the Public Welfare Code, the act of April 14,
16 1972 (P.L.221, No.63), known as the Pennsylvania Drug and
17 Alcohol Abuse Control Act, and the act of July 19, 1979
18 (P.L.130, No.48), known as the Health Care Facilities Act, a
19 person may be employed as a counselor for a drug or alcohol

1 treatment project based solely on the person's previous work
2 experience in the field of drug or alcohol treatment or the
3 person's life experience as a recovering addict who has
4 successfully completed a drug or alcohol counseling program, if
5 the person successfully completes an interview with a
6 representative of the Department of Health.

7 Section 3. Abrogation of regulation.

8 The regulation of the Department of Health at 28 Pa. Code §
9 704.7(b) (relating to qualifications for the position of
10 counselor) is abrogated.

11 Section 4. Repeals.

12 (a) Specific.--The following acts and parts of acts are
13 repealed insofar as they are inconsistent with this act:

14 Act of May 17, 1921 (P.L.682, No.284), known as The Insurance
15 Company Law of 1921.

16 Articles IX and X of the act of June 13, 1967 (P.L.31,
17 No.21), known as the Public Welfare Code.

18 Act of April 14, 1972 (P.L.221, No.63), known as the
19 Pennsylvania Drug and Alcohol Abuse Control Act.

20 Act of July 19, 1979 (P.L.130, No.48), known as the Health
21 Care Facilities Act.

22 (b) General.--All other acts and parts of acts are repealed
23 insofar as they are inconsistent with this act.

24 Section 5. Effective date.

25 This act shall take effect in 60 days.