

ASSEMBLY BILL NO. 236—ASSEMBLYWOMAN MONROE-MORENO

MARCH 2, 2023

Referred to Committee on Commerce and Labor

SUMMARY—Revises provisions governing the practice of psychology. (BDR 54-799)

FISCAL NOTE: Effect on Local Government: May have Fiscal Impact.
Effect on the State: Yes.

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EXPLANATION – Matter in *bolded italics* is new; matter between brackets ~~omitted material~~ is material to be omitted.

AN ACT relating to psychology; revising and eliminating certain exceptions from certain prohibitions against a person representing himself or herself as a psychologist or engaging in the practice of psychology without a license issued by the Board of Psychological Examiners; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Legislative Counsel's Digest:

Existing law prohibits, with certain exceptions, a person from representing himself or herself as a psychologist or engaging in the practice of psychology unless the person has been issued a license by the Board of Psychological Examiners. Existing law provides an exception from that prohibition to authorize a psychological scientist employed by an accredited educational institution or public agency which has set forth explicit standards to represent himself or herself by the title conferred upon him or her by the institution or agency. (NRS 641.390) This bill removes that exception, thus prohibiting a psychological scientist from representing himself or herself as a psychologist without a license issued by the Board.

Existing law provides that the provisions of existing law governing psychologists do not prevent the teaching of psychology or psychological research that does not involve the delivery or supervision of direct psychological services to a person. (NRS 641.390) This bill specifies that the provisions of existing law governing psychologists do not prevent such activities when conducted at an accredited educational institution. Existing law also authorizes a person who has obtained a doctoral degree in psychology from an accredited educational institution to use the title "psychologist" in conjunction with the teaching of psychology or psychological research that does not involve the delivery or supervision of direct psychological services to a person. (NRS 641.390) This bill revises that provision to authorize such a person to use the title "psychologist" in conjunction with such



22 teaching or psychological research only when those activities are conducted at an
23 accredited educational institution.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, REPRESENTED IN
SENATE AND ASSEMBLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

1 **Section 1.** NRS 641.390 is hereby amended to read as follows:

2 641.390 1. Except as authorized by the Psychology
3 Interjurisdictional Compact enacted in NRS 641.227, a person shall
4 not represent himself or herself as a psychologist within the
5 meaning of this chapter or engage in the practice of psychology
6 unless he or she is licensed under the provisions of this chapter . ~~§~~
7 ~~except that any psychological scientist employed by an accredited~~
8 ~~educational institution or public agency which has set explicit~~
9 ~~standards may represent himself or herself by the title conferred~~
10 ~~upon him or her by such institution or agency.]~~

11 2. ~~[This section does not grant approval for any person to offer~~
12 ~~services as a psychologist to any other person as a consultant, and to~~
13 ~~accept remuneration for such psychological services, other than that~~
14 ~~of an institutional salary, unless the psychologist has been licensed~~
15 ~~under the provisions of this chapter.~~

16 ~~—3.]~~ This chapter does not prevent the teaching of psychology or
17 psychological research ~~[§]~~ *at an accredited educational institution,*
18 unless the teaching or research involves the delivery or supervision
19 of direct psychological services to a person. Persons who have
20 earned a doctoral degree in psychology from an accredited
21 educational institution may use the title “psychologist” in
22 conjunction with the activities permitted by this subsection.

23 ~~[4.]~~ 3. A graduate student in psychology whose activities are
24 part of the course of study for a graduate degree in psychology at an
25 accredited educational institution or a person pursuing postdoctoral
26 training or experience in psychology to fulfill the requirements for
27 licensure under the provisions of this chapter may use the terms
28 “psychological trainee,” “psychological intern” or “psychological
29 assistant” if the activities are performed under the supervision of a
30 licensed psychologist in accordance with the regulations adopted by
31 the Board.

32 ~~[5.]~~ 4. A person who is certified as a school psychologist by
33 the State Board of Education may use the title “school psychologist”
34 or “certified school psychologist” in connection with activities
35 relating to school psychologists.

36 **Sec. 2.** Notwithstanding the amendatory provisions of this act,
37 any person who, on or before January 1, 2024, is a psychological
38 scientist employed by an accredited educational institution or public
39 agency described in NRS 641.390 and upon whom the title of



1 psychologist or any other title indicating or implying that the person
2 is a psychologist has been conferred by the accredited educational
3 institution or public agency may represent himself or herself as a
4 psychologist without obtaining a license issued by the Board of
5 Psychological Examiners pursuant to chapter 641 of NRS until
6 July 1, 2024.

7 **Sec. 3.** 1. This section becomes effective upon passage and
8 approval.

9 2. Sections 1 and 2 of this act become effective:

- 10 (a) Upon passage and approval for the purpose of adopting any
11 regulations and performing any other preparatory administrative
12 tasks that are necessary to carry out the provisions of this act; and
13 (b) On January 1, 2024, for all other purposes.

