

By: Gadd

To: Public Health and
Welfare

HOUSE BILL NO. 885

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 73-53-7, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO
2 PROVIDE THAT ANY PERSON WHO HAS AT LEAST FIVE YEARS OF SOCIAL WORK
3 PRACTICE AS AN EMPLOYEE OF A PUBLIC ENTITY BEFORE JULY 1, 1993,
4 WHO IS ACTIVELY ENGAGED IN SOCIAL WORK PRACTICE AS AN EMPLOYEE OF
5 A PUBLIC ENTITY ON JULY 1, 2000, SHALL BE ISSUED A LICENSE AS A
6 SOCIAL WORKER IF THE PERSON APPLIES FOR THE LICENSE BEFORE
7 SEPTEMBER 1, 2000; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

8 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI:

9 SECTION 1. Section 73-53-7, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
10 amended as follows:[RF1]

11 73-53-7. (1) Except as hereinafter provided, all
12 individuals not exempt from licensure who are not licensed under
13 this chapter are prohibited from performing services for
14 compensation for which licensure is required by this chapter, and
15 are also prohibited from holding themselves out to the public by
16 any title or description of services set out in this chapter or by
17 any title or description of services likely to cause public
18 confusion with any title or description of services set out in
19 this chapter.

20 (2) Any person not licensed under this chapter on July 1,
21 1993, who is actively engaged in the practice of social work
22 before July 1, 1994, as an employee of the State of Mississippi or
23 any agency, political subdivision or municipality thereof or any

24 community action agency or Head Start agency, and who is not
25 eligible to be issued a license under subsection (3) of this
26 section, shall be issued a provisional license as a licensed
27 social worker by the board, if the person applies for such
28 provisional license before July 1, 1994, and, at the time that the
29 application is made, the person is so actively engaged. The
30 license shall be issued by the board upon application therefor,
31 the submission of proof satisfactory to the board of the
32 applicant's employment in the practice of social work as provided
33 in this subsection, and the payment of the appropriate fee. Such
34 license shall be valid for a maximum period of two (2) years, but
35 not to extend past June 30, 1995, during which time the
36 provisional licensee must pass the AASSWB social work examination
37 at the basic level.

38 (3) Any person not licensed under this chapter on July 1,
39 1993, who has been actively engaged in the practice of social work
40 for not less than five (5) years before July 1, 1993, as an
41 employee of the State of Mississippi or any agency, political
42 subdivision or municipality thereof or any community action agency
43 or Head Start agency, shall be issued a license as a social worker
44 by the board, if the person applies for such license before
45 September 1, 1994, and at the time that the application is made,
46 the person is so actively engaged. Any person who has the
47 required number of years of social work practice as an employee of
48 any of the specified entities before July 1, 1993, who is actively
49 engaged in social work practice as an employee of any of the
50 specified entities on July 1, 2000, regardless of whether the
51 current employment position is designated as a social worker,
52 shall be issued a license as a social worker by the board if the
53 person applies for the license before September 1, 2000. The
54 license shall be issued by the board upon application therefor,

55 the submission of proof satisfactory to the board of the
56 applicant's employment in the practice of social work as provided
57 in this subsection, and the payment of the appropriate fee.

58 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect and be in force from
59 and after July 1, 2000.