

By: Representative Clark

To: Public Health and Human Services

HOUSE BILL NO. 1080

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 73-53-7, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO
2 PROVIDE THAT CERTAIN PERSONS WHOSE LICENSE EXPIRED ON SEPTEMBER
3 30, 1990, WHO OTHERWISE WOULD HAVE BEEN ENGAGED IN THE ACTIVITY OF
4 SOCIAL WORK FOR FIVE YEARS BEFORE JULY 1, 1993, WHO IS ACTIVELY
5 ENGAGED IN SOCIAL WORK PRACTICE AS AN EMPLOYEE OF A PUBLIC ENTITY
6 ON JULY 1, 2007, SHALL BE ISSUED A LICENSE AS A SOCIAL WORKER IF
7 THE PERSON APPLIES FOR THE LICENSE BEFORE SEPTEMBER 1, 2007; AND
8 FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

10 **SECTION 1.** Section 73-53-7, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
11 amended as follows:

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

21 (2) Any person not licensed under this chapter on July 1,
22 1993, who is actively engaged in the practice of social work
23 before July 1, 1994, as an employee of the State of Mississippi or
24 any agency, political subdivision or municipality thereof or any
25 community action agency or Head Start agency, and who is not
26 eligible to be issued a license under subsection (3) of this
27 section, shall be issued a provisional license as a licensed
28 social worker by the board, if the person applies for such
29 provisional license before July 1, 1994, and, at the time that the
30 application is made, the person is so actively engaged. The

31 license shall be issued by the board upon application therefor,
32 the submission of proof satisfactory to the board of the
33 applicant's employment in the practice of social work as provided
34 in this subsection, and the payment of the appropriate fee. Such
35 license shall be valid for a maximum period of two (2) years, but
36 not to extend past June 30, 1995, during which time the
37 provisional licensee must pass the AASSWB social work examination
38 at the basic level.

39 (3) Any person not licensed under this chapter on July 1,
40 1993, who has been actively engaged in the practice of social work
41 for not less than five (5) years before July 1, 1993, as an
42 employee of the State of Mississippi or any agency, political
43 subdivision or municipality thereof or any community action agency
44 or Head Start agency, shall be issued a license as a social worker
45 by the board, if the person applies for such license before
46 September 1, 1994, and at the time that the application is made,
47 the person is so actively engaged. Any person born on May 24,
48 1949, who has eight (8) years of social work practice as an
49 employee of any of the specified entities before July 1, 1993, who
50 is an employee of any of the specified entities on July 1, 2000,
51 regardless of whether the current employment position is
52 designated as a social worker, shall be issued a license as a
53 social worker by the board if the person applies for the license
54 before September 1, 2000. The license shall be issued by the
55 board upon application therefor, the submission of proof
56 satisfactory to the board of the applicant's employment in the
57 practice of social work as provided in this subsection, and the
58 payment of the appropriate fee.

59 (4) Any person not licensed under this chapter on July 1,
60 1993, whose license expired on September 30, 1990, who otherwise
61 would have been actively engaged in the practice of social work
62 for not less than five (5) years before July 1, 1993, as an
63 employee of the State of Mississippi or any agency, political

64 subdivision or municipality thereof or any community action agency
65 or Head Start agency, who is an employee of any of the specified
66 entities on July 1, 2007, regardless of whether the current
67 employment position is designated as a social worker, shall be
68 issued a license as a social worker by the board if the person
69 applies for the license before September 1, 2007. The license
70 shall be issued by the board upon application therefor, the
71 submission of proof satisfactory to the board of the applicant's
72 employment in the practice of social work as provided in this
73 subsection, and the payment of the appropriate fee.

74 (5) From and after July 1, 2008, any person violating the
75 provisions of this chapter shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and,
76 upon conviction, shall be fined not more than Five Hundred Dollars
77 (\$500.00) for his first offense, nor more than One Thousand
78 Dollars (\$1,000.00) for each subsequent offense.

79 **SECTION 2.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
80 and after its passage.