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Bill Analysis
Legislative Service Commission

H.B. 184

123rd General Assembly
(As Introduced)

Reps. Cates, Allen, Boyd, Hood, Jolivette, Krebs, D. Miller

BILL SUMMARY

- Requires the State Board of Psychology to provide, at the request of an applicant who is diagnosed with attention deficit hyperactivity disorder, an oral examination that is equivalent to the Board's written examination for a psychologist license.

CONTENT AND OPERATION

Background

Current law provides that to be eligible to take the examination for a psychologist license an applicant must be at least 21 years of age, be of good moral character, be a citizen of the United States or have legally declared the intention of becoming a citizen, have received an earned doctoral degree in psychology, school psychology, or an equivalent doctoral degree from an accredited or recognized educational institution, and have at least two years of supervised professional experience, at least one year of which must be postdoctoral (R.C. 4732.10(B)). Once an applicant meets these requirements, current law requires the State Board of Psychology to examine the applicant for knowledge in whatever theoretical or applied fields of psychology the Board considers appropriate (R.C. 4732.11). If the applicant passes the examination and pays the required application and license fee, the Board is to issue the appropriate license (R.C. 4732.12).

Applicants with attention deficit hyperactivity disorder

(sec. 4732.111)

The bill provides that if all or part of the licensing examination conducted by the Board of Psychology is in the form of a written examination, the Board must, at the request of an applicant diagnosed with attention deficit hyperactivity disorder, provide the applicant with an equivalent oral examination in lieu of the

written examination. The Board may require the applicant to provide the Board with evidence of the applicant's diagnosis.

COMMENT

According to the American Psychiatric Association's Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders:

The essential feature of Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder is a persistent pattern of inattention and/or hyperactivity-impulsivity that is more frequent and severe than is typically observed in individuals at a comparable level of development. . . . Inattention may be manifest in academic, occupational, or social situations. Individuals with this disorder may fail to give close attention to details or make careless mistakes in schoolwork or other tasks. American Psychiatric Association, *Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders* (4th Ed., 1994) p. 78.

HISTORY

ACTION	DATE	JOURNAL ENTRY
Introduced	02-16-99	p. 199

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