

HOUSE BILL NO. 485
INTRODUCED BY KOTTEL

A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT REGULATING THE REPRESENTATION AND USE OF THE TITLE OF SOCIAL WORKER."

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

NEW SECTION. Section 1. Restrictions on use of title. (1) ~~A~~ EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN SUBSECTION (3), ~~A~~ person may not represent that the person is a social worker, bachelor social worker, baccalaureate social worker, master's social worker, or doctoral-level social worker or use ~~any words or symbols or~~ the letters "S.W.", "B.S.W.", or "M.S.W." in connection with the person's name that indicate that the person is a social worker, bachelor social worker, baccalaureate social worker, master's social worker, or doctoral-level social worker unless the person has graduated with the appropriate degree in social work from a program approved by the board.

(2) (a) Except as provided in subsection (2)(b), a person who is recognized, certified, or licensed by a regulatory board or authority other than the board may not represent to the public or use any title or description stating or implying that the person is engaged in, licensed or certified to engage in, or authorized to engage in the practice of social work in this state.

(b) This section may not be construed as preventing a person who is recognized, certified, or licensed by a regulatory board or authority in this state other than the board from performing those functions for which the person is recognized, licensed, or certified in this state.

(3) NOTHING IN THIS SECTION PROHIBITS A PERSON WHO IS EMPLOYED AS A QUALIFIED SOCIAL WORKER PURSUANT TO TITLE 42 OF THE CODE OF FEDERAL REGULATIONS FROM REPRESENTING TO THE PUBLIC THAT THE PERSON IS A SOCIAL WORKER.

NEW SECTION. Section 2. Codification instruction. [Section 1] is intended to be codified as an integral part of Title 37, chapter 22, and the provisions of Title 37, chapter 22, apply to [section 1].

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