7405--A

2021-2022 Regular Sessions

IN ASSEMBLY

May 7, 2021

Introduced by M. of A. BRONSON -- read once and referred to the Committee on Higher Education -- committee discharged, bill amended, ordered reprinted as amended and recommitted to said committee

AN ACT to amend the education law, in relation to extending certain exemptions for persons employed as mental health practitioners, psychologists and social workers

The People of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

1 Section 1. Subdivision 12 section 7605 of the education law, as added 2 by section 2 of part Y of chapter 57 of the laws of 2018, is amended to 3 read as follows:

4 12. Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, noth-5 ing in this article shall be construed to prohibit or limit the activб ities or services provided under this article by any person who is employed or who commences employment in a program or service operated, 7 8 regulated, funded, or approved by the department of mental hygiene, the office of children and family services, or a local governmental unit as 9 10 that term is defined in section 41.03 of the mental hygiene law or a social services district as defined in section sixty-one of the social 11 12 services law on or before [one year] two years from the date that the 13 regulations issued in accordance with section six of [the] part Y of 14 chapter fifty-seven of the laws of two thousand eighteen [which added 15 **this subdivision**] appear in the state register or are adopted, whichever is later. Such prohibitions or limitations shall not apply to such 16 employees for as long as they remain employed by such programs or 17 services and whether they remain employed by the same or other employers 18 19 providing such programs or services. Provided, however, that any person 20 who commences employment in such program or service after such date and 21 performs services that are restricted under this article shall be appro-22 priately licensed or authorized under this article. Each state oversight

EXPLANATION--Matter in <u>italics</u> (underscored) is new; matter in brackets [-] is old law to be omitted.

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1 agency shall create and maintain a process to verify employment history
2 of individuals exempt under this subdivision.

3 § 2. Subdivision 8 of section 7706 of the education law, as added by 4 section 4 of part Y of chapter 57 of the laws of 2018, is amended to 5 read as follows:

б 8. Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, nothing 7 in this article shall be construed to prohibit or limit the activities 8 or services provided under this article by any person who is employed or 9 who commences employment in a program or service operated, regulated, 10 funded, or approved by the department of mental hygiene, the office of 11 children and family services, the department of corrections and community supervision, the office of temporary and disability assistance, the 12 state office for the aging and the department of health or a local 13 14 governmental unit as that term is defined in section 41.03 of the mental 15 hygiene law or a social services district as defined in section sixty-16 one of the social services law on or before [one year] two years from 17 the date that the regulations issued in accordance with section six of [the] part Y of chapter fifty-seven of the laws of two thousand eighteen 18 [which added this subdivision] appear in the state register or are 19 20 adopted, whichever is later. Such prohibitions or limitations shall not 21 apply to such employees for as long as they remain employed by such programs or services and whether they remain employed by the same or 22 other employers providing such programs or services. Provided however, 23 24 that any person who commences employment in such program or service 25 after such date and performs services that are restricted under this 26 article shall be appropriately licensed or authorized under this arti-27 cle. Each state oversight agency shall create and maintain a process to 28 verify employment history of individuals exempt under this subdivision. 29 § 3. Subdivision 9 of section 8410 of the education law, as added by 30 section 5 of part Y of chapter 57 of the laws of 2018, is amended to 31 read as follows:

32 9. Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, nothing 33 in this article shall be construed to prohibit or limit the activities 34 or services provided under this article by any person who is employed or 35 who commences employment in a program or service operated, regulated, 36 funded, or approved by the department of mental hygiene, the office of 37 children and family services, the department of corrections and communi-38 ty supervision, the office of temporary and disability assistance, the state office for the aging and the department of health or a local 39 governmental unit as that term is defined in section 41.03 of the mental 40 41 hygiene law or a social services district as defined in section sixty-42 one of the social services law on or before [one year] two years from 43 the date that the regulations issued in accordance with section six of 44 [the] part Y of chapter fifty-seven of the laws of two thousand eighteen 45 [which added this subdivision] appear in the state register or are 46 adopted, whichever is later. Such prohibitions or limitations shall not 47 apply to such employees for as long as they remain employed by such programs or services and whether they remain employed by the same or 48 other employers providing such programs or services. Provided however, 49 that any person who commences employment in such program or service 50 51 after such date and performs services that are restricted under this 52 article shall be appropriately licensed or authorized under this arti-53 cle. Each state oversight agency shall create and maintain a process to 54 verify employment history of individuals exempt under this subdivision. 55 § 4. This act shall take effect immediately.