

House Bill No. 775

An act relating to psychology specialties; creating s. 490.0149, F.S.; providing a definition; specifying the circumstances under which a psychologist may hold himself or herself out as a certified psychology specialist, board-certified psychology specialist, or psychology diplomate; requiring the Board of Psychology to adopt rules to establish specified criteria for approval of certifying bodies; specifying that a person licensed under ch. 490, F.S., may specify the types of services he or she provides; providing an effective date.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

Section 1. Section 490.0149, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

490.0149 Specialties.—

(1) As used in this section, the term “certified psychology specialist,” “board-certified psychology specialist,” or “psychology diplomate” means a psychologist with recognized special competency acquired through an organized sequence of formal education, training, experience, and professional standing that is recognized by a certifying body approved by the board pursuant to criteria adopted under subsection (3).

(2) A person licensed as a psychologist may not hold himself or herself out as a certified psychology specialist, board-certified psychology specialist, or psychology diplomate unless the person has received formal recognition from an approved certifying body.

(3) The board shall adopt rules to establish criteria for approval of certifying bodies that provide certification for specialties in psychology as provided in subsection (1). The criteria shall include that a certifying body:

(a) Be national in scope, incorporate standards of the profession, and collaborate closely with organizations related to specialization in psychology.

(b) Have clearly described purposes, by-laws, policies, and procedures.

(c) Have established standards for specialized practice of psychology.

(d) Provide assessments that include the development and implementation of an examination designed to measure the competencies required to provide services that are characteristic of the specialty area.

(4) A person licensed as a psychologist under this chapter may indicate the services he or she offers and may indicate that his or her practice is limited to one or more types of services when this accurately reflects his or her scope of practice.

Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2006.

Approved by the Governor June 13, 2006.

Filed in Office Secretary of State June 13, 2006.