

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 707

Introduced by Assembly Member House

February 24, 1999

An act to amend Section 44874 of, and to add Section 44267.4 to, the Education Code, relating to public school employees.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 707, as introduced, House. School psychologist: school social worker.

Existing law sets forth the requirements for employment of school district employees, including, but not limited to, the qualifications for employment of a psychologist or social worker. Existing law establishes the minimum requirements for a person employed by a school district as psychologist or social worker to be valid certificate issued by the appropriate state agency, and a services credential with specialization in health.

This bill would establish the minimum requirement for a person employed by a school district as a school psychologist or as a school social worker to include a valid certificate issued by the appropriate state agency that certifies persons who practice in those fields, and a services credential with a specialization in health, pupil personnel services, or school psychology.

Existing law sets forth the minimum qualifications for a services credential with a specialization in health and for a services credential with a specialization in pupil personnel services.

This bill would establish minimum requirements for the services credential with a specialization in school psychology.

This bill would set forth the services that a holder of a services credential with a school psychology specialization may provide, to include, but not be limited to, services that enhance the academic performance of a pupil, designing of strategies and programs to address problems of pupil adjustment, and consulting with other educators and parents on issues of pupil social development, pupil behavior, and academic difficulties. This bill would, also, permit similar services to be provided by persons with a services credential with a specialization in either health or pupil personnel services.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes. State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 44267.4 is added to the
2 Education Code, to read:

3 44267.4. (a) The minimum requirements for the
4 services credential with a specialization in school
5 psychology are all of the following:

6 (1) A postbaccalaureate or graduate degree from a
7 regionally accredited institution of higher education. For
8 applicants who complete a professional preparation
9 program in a state other than California, the degree shall
10 be approved by the appropriate state agency in the state
11 where it was completed.

12 (2) Successful completion of 450 hours of approved
13 practicum study.

14 (3) Successful completion of a supervised field
15 practice internship of at least 1,200 hours.

16 (b) A holder of a services credential with a
17 specialization in school psychology may provide school
18 psychology services, including, but not limited to, all of
19 the following:

20 (1) Services that enhance the academic performance
21 of a pupil.



1 (2) Designing strategies and programs to address
2 problems of pupil adjustment.

3 (3) Consulting with other educators and parents on
4 issues of pupil social development and pupil behavioral
5 and academic difficulties.

6 (4) Psychoeducational assessments for purposes of
7 identifying pupil special needs.

8 (5) Pupil-oriented psychological counseling for
9 individuals, groups, and families.

10 (6) Cooperation with foster family and community
11 partnerships to promote wellness through development
12 and implementation of prevention and intervention
13 programs for pupils and families.

14 (7) Coordination and implementation of intervention
15 strategies for management of individual and school crises,
16 including, but not limited to, counseling staff regarding
17 implementation techniques.

18 (c) This section provides an alternative specialization
19 for a services credential to provide school psychology
20 services and shall not preclude persons with services
21 credentials pursuant to Sections 44266 and 44267 from
22 providing similar services.

23 SEC. 2. Section 44874 of the Education Code is
24 amended to read:

25 44874. (a) The qualifications for a *school* psychologist
26 or *school* social worker are a valid certificate issued by the
27 appropriate California agency authorized by law to
28 certify ~~such~~ persons *who practice in those fields* and a
29 services credential with a specialization in health *as set*
30 *forth in Section 44267, a services credential with a*
31 *specialization in pupil personnel services as set forth in*
32 *Section 44266, or a special services credential with a*
33 *specialization in school psychology as set forth in Section*
34 *44267.4. Any*

35 (b) Any school district may employ and compensate
36 *school* psychologists and *school* social workers meeting
37 the foregoing qualifications.

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