

HB117 ENROLLED



1 HB117
2 F9V35DC-3
3 By Representatives Simpson, Wilcox
4 RFD: Boards, Agencies and Commissions
5 First Read: 04-Feb-25
6 PFD: 03-Feb-25



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1 Enrolled, An Act,

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3 Relating to the Alabama Sunset Law; to continue the
4 existence and functioning of the Alabama Board of Examiners in
5 Marriage and Family Therapy until October 1, 2027, with
6 certain modifications; to amend Section 34-17A-6, Code of
7 Alabama 1975, to require that no two board members reside in
8 the same congressional district.

9 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

10 Section 1. Pursuant to the Alabama Sunset Law, the
11 Sunset Committee recommends the continuance of the Alabama
12 Board of Examiners in Marriage and Family Therapy until
13 October 1, 2027, with additional recommendation for statutory
14 change as set out in Section 3.

15 Section 2. The existence and functioning of the Alabama
16 Board of Examiners in Marriage and Family Therapy, created and
17 functioning pursuant to Sections 34-17A-1 to 34-17A-26,
18 inclusive, Code of Alabama 1975, is continued until October 1,
19 2027, and those code sections are expressly preserved.

20 Section 3. Section 34-17A-6, Code of Alabama 1975, is
21 amended to read as follows:

22 "§34-17A-6

23 (a) There is created the Alabama Board of Examiners in
24 Marriage and Family Therapy. The board shall consist of five
25 members who are ~~citizens~~ residents of this state and appointed
26 by the Governor. In appointing members to the board, the
27 Governor shall ~~select those persons whose appointments would~~
28 ~~ensure that, to the extent possible, the membership of the~~



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29 ~~board reflects the geographic, gender, and racial diversity of~~
30 ~~the state as a whole~~ coordinate his or her appointments to
31 assure the board's membership is inclusive and reflects the
32 racial gender, geographic, urban, rural, and economic
33 diversity of the state. Commencing on June 1, 2025, as the
34 terms of the members serving on the board expire, the
35 membership of the board shall be appointed so that no two
36 members of the board reside in the same congressional
37 district. The board shall perform the duties and have the
38 powers as prescribed and conferred by this chapter. No member
39 of the board shall be civilly liable for any act performed in
40 good faith for the performance of his or her duties as a
41 member of the board.

42 (b) The professional membership of the board shall be
43 licensed pursuant to this chapter.

44 (c) Vacancies on the board shall be filled for the
45 remainder of the unexpired term. Members of the board shall
46 serve until their successors are appointed and have qualified.
47 Board members shall be ineligible for reappointment for a
48 period of three years following completion of their five-year
49 term.

50 (d) Appointments to the board shall be made by the
51 Governor as provided in this subsection. Not later than
52 October 1 of each year, the Board of Directors of the Alabama
53 Association for Marriage and Family Therapy shall submit to
54 the Governor the names of two qualified candidates for each
55 position on the board to be vacated by reason of expiration of
56 a term of office. From the two candidates, the Governor shall



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57 appoint one member to serve on the board for a term of five
58 years. Other vacancies occurring on the board shall be filled
59 for the unexpired term by appointment of the Governor from two
60 candidates for each vacancy submitted by the Alabama
61 Association for Marriage and Family Therapy within 30 days
62 after the vacancy occurs. Composition of the board shall
63 consist of one public member, one marriage and family therapy
64 educator, and three practicing marriage and family therapists.

65 (e) The Governor may remove a member of the board only
66 for neglect of duty, malfeasance, or conviction of a felony or
67 crime of moral turpitude while in office. Notwithstanding the
68 foregoing, no member may be removed until after a public
69 hearing of the charges against him or her, and at least 30
70 days' prior written notice to the accused member of the
71 charges against him or her and of the date fixed for the
72 hearing. No board member shall participate in any matter
73 before the board in which he or she has a pecuniary interest,
74 personal bias, or other similar conflict of interest."

75 Section 4. The Legislature concurs in the
76 recommendation of the Sunset Committee as provided in Sections
77 1, 2, and 3.

78 Section 5. This act shall become effective on June 1,
79 2025.



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Speaker of the House of Representatives

President and Presiding Officer of the Senate

House of Representatives

I hereby certify that the within Act originated in and was passed by the House 06-Feb-25.

John Treadwell
Clerk

Senate

08-Apr-25

Passed