



Alaska State Legislature

Senate Majority Web: www.akrepublicans.org

Sponsor: Health, Education & Social Services By Request
Current Version: CS SB 177 (HES)
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Fact Sheet for: Senate Bill 177

Short Title: PRACTICE OF PSYCHOLOGY

Summary:

- Allows licensed professional counselors, licensed marital and family therapists and licensed clinical social workers to use psychological terms.

Benefits:

- Updates statutes to allow for newer mental health professionals such as LPCs and LMFTs who are trained and licensed to provide psychological services.
- Protects the consumer by maintaining licensing requirements for use of certain terms.

Background:

- In the 1970s and 80s, the Legislature attempted to protect the public by regulating the practice of psychology. As a result, only clinical social workers and licensed psychologists were permitted to use certain terms such as psychological, psychotherapy and psychoanalysis. SB 177 allows other mental health professions to use the terms.