

From: Daniel Schroeder, Ph.D. <dan.schroeder@od-consultants.com>

Sent: Friday, September 21, 2018 3:12 PM

To: DSPS Admin Rules <DSPSAdminRules@wisconsin.gov>

Subject: Input for Behavioral Health Review Committee

Dear Sir or Madam:

On behalf of the Psychology Examining Board, thank you for this opportunity for input to the work of the Behavioral Health Review Committee. The Psychology Examining Board is pleased to hear of this initiative to examine practices and activities regarding behavioral health across various fields and disciplines. This is a significant undertaking and we are hopeful that the work yields helpful insights and positive outcomes.

Briefly, here are some issues that the Psychology Examining Board wishes to share:

1. The PSY Board, over the past three-plus years, has spent significant time and attention revising its rules to comply with the authority granted the Board in the 1994 statute which, unfortunately, has become increasingly obsolete and outdated over time, in terms of trends within the field of psychology and relative to comparable statutes in the states surrounding Wisconsin.
2. In the course of its activities associated with No. 1, above, the Board has discovered that the 1994 statute is not in keeping with emerging trends in the field of Psychology and limits the Board's ability to promulgate rules that are consistent with those trends.
3. Over the past few years, working in concert with Licensing Task Force of the Wisconsin Psychological Association and various leaders within the Wisconsin legislature (e.g., Rep. Paul Tittl, Chair of the Assembly's Mental Health Committee), the Board has endeavored to craft a proposed statute that might be pursued (i.e., 2017 Assembly Bill 763 and 2017 Senate Bill 643).
4. The proposed statute would address key issues such as supervised experience, interim licenses, supervision, and training/education, providing for employment gains and economic impact (i.e., employment data forecasts Psychology to be a fast growth field over the next decade and Wisconsin's Psychology labor force is aging, with many retirements looming). The statute would ensure that Wisconsin's licensing practices remain consistent with other jurisdictions around the United States, ensuring that Wisconsin is a desirable and attractive employment setting for psychological practitioners at all stages in their professional careers and, hopefully, encouraging them to make Wisconsin their long-term employment location.

The Psychology Examining Board looks forward to offering input and assistance as this initiative unfolds. We are open to any feedback that might be offered to our submission. Further, we look forward to collaborating with the stakeholders associated with this initiative to the fullest extent possible. We would welcome the opportunity to work with our colleagues in the other behavioral health disciplines.

Please call on me with comments or questions.

Sincerely,

Daniel A. Schroeder, Ph.D.
Chair, Psychology Examining Board in Wisconsin