

# One Hundred Second Legislature - Second Session - 2012

## Introducer's Statement of Intent

### LB1148

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**Chairperson: Senator Kathy Campbell**

**Committee: Health and Human Services**

**Date of Hearing: February 22, 2012**

The following constitutes the reasons for this bill and the purposes which are sought to be accomplished thereby:

LB 1148 will amend the supervision requirements in current statutory criteria for attaining certification as a Marriage and Family Therapist and to make the certification requirements more uniform, in the number of supervised hours required, to similar types of certification.

Certification in marriage and family therapy already requires 3,000 hours of supervised experience. LB 1148 will require those 3,000 hours to include:

- 1500 hours of direct client contact during the five years preceding application for certification
- at least 100 hours of supervisor-supervisee contact hours with a qualified supervisor
- and supervision provided at least one hour per week or two hours every two weeks.

This bill also amends the definition of qualified supervisor. The current definition is a licensed mental health practitioner, a psychologist licensed to engage in the practice of psychology, or a licensed physician who meets supervisory standards established by rules and regulations of the board and the department. LB 1148 would add the requirement that these individuals hold a designation of approved supervisor from an association which establishes standards for marriage and family therapy in conformity with accepted industry standards and approved by the department. LB 1148 adds that a qualified supervisor may also mean a licensed marriage and family therapist who has practiced for five years, has completed a five-hour supervision course provided by an association and meets standards established by the department.

These changes are aimed at increasing the number of marriage and family therapists in Nebraska.

**Principal Introducer:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Senator Mike Gloor**