

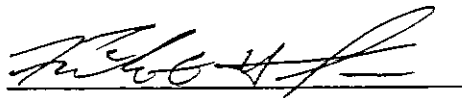
NOTICE OF AGENCY ADOPTION

RULE TITLE: Qualifications for Licensure as a Social Worker

RULE TYPE: Interpretive

THE ATTACHED RULE CONSTITUTES THE OFFICIAL RULE ADOPTED BY THE
Board of Social Work Examiners

ON June 10, 1986 AND FILED WITH THE SECRETARY OF STATE.



RICH O. HARTMAN for
Barbara Matz, Chair BSWE

FILED IN THE OFFICE OF
THE SECRETARY OF STATE
THIS DATE June 10, 1986
ADMINISTRATIVE LAW DIVISION

WEST VIRGINIA INTERPRETIVE RULES
BOARD OF SOCIAL WORK EXAMINERS
CHAPTER 30-30
SERIES I

Subject: Qualifications for Licensure as a Social Worker

SECTION 1.	General
SECTION 2.	Qualifications
SECTION 3.	Ethics
SECTION 4.	Application
SECTION 5.	Responsibilities of Licensees

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Title 25

~~WEST VIRGINIA~~ INTERPRETIVE RULE
BOARD OF SOCIAL WORK EXAMINERS
~~CHAPTER 30-30~~

SERIES 1

Title: Qualifications for licensure as a social worker.

Section 1. General

1.1 Scope - These interpretive rules define and specify the qualifications, ethics, application, and responsibilities for licensing as a social worker.

1.2 Authority - 30-30

1.3 Filing Date - June 10, 1986

1.4 Effective Date - July 10, 1986

Section 2. Qualifications

2.1 Adequacy of experience - [30-30-6a,b] Acceptable experience for the purpose of exemption from requirements must involve the practice of social work, as defined in 30-30-2-b,c,d,e, and must have been performed competently at a professional level in order to be considered satisfactory in scope and quality. Experience limited to essentially repetitious and routine tasks at the pre-professional level will not be accepted.

2.2 Related fields - [30-30-6] Fields related to social work for the purpose of exemption from requirements include psychology, sociology, counseling, rehabilitation, correctional counseling, public policy, public administration, and human resources.

2.3 Requirements for applicants from schools of social work in the process of being accredited - [30-30-6] Candidates from schools of social work currently in the process of application for accreditation by the Council on Social Work Education will be eligible to take the licensure examination until June 30, 1987 (because they could not have been reasonably expected to know the requirements for licensure when they entered the program). Students entering an as yet unaccredited program after June 30, 1985 shall be notified in writing by the school on an annual basis of the status of the school's application for accreditation. Applicants who have graduated from programs that were accredited at the time of graduation but are no longer accredited will be eligible on the basis of the school's status at the time of their graduation. Applicants who were enrolled and in good standing in a social work program at the time of the

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loss of accreditation will be eligible until June 30, 1987.

2.4 Provision for in lieu of requirement - [30-30-a-5-(5),b-4,c-4] Candidates who wish to be considered under this section must obtain the approval of the Board of Social Work Examiners to an agreed upon specific plan for meeting those requirements and must provide verification at times specified by the Board that they are adhering to the approved plan for meeting the requirements. In addition, the candidate shall satisfactorily pass specified examinations in order to qualify for continuance of temporary permit.

2.4.1 Competency - The Board may convene a panel of social work experts to advise and consult with the Board in considering the competency of applicants requesting evaluation in a particular area of practice for which they have not completed coursework. This panel of experts will be versed in the area of the competency to be evaluated. The Board may use competency equivalency evaluation tests and other evaluative methods in determining competency.

Section 3. Ethics

3.1 Licensees shall abide by the West Virginia Social Work Code of Ethics. (See Appendix A.) Failure to do so will be considered grounds for disciplinary action.

Section 4. Application

4.1 Application for social work licensure shall be made on the forms included in the Applicant's Handbook provided by the Board of Social Work Examiners and the American Association of State Social Work Boards. Details of the application process are contained in this booklet. This Application Handbook may be obtained by writing to the Board of Social Work Examiners, P.O. Box 5477, Charleston, WV 25311, Board members, and from the Department of Human Services, 1900 Washington Street E, Charleston, WV 25305.

4.2 Fee schedule - [30-30-3-(e)(4),10,11]

4.2.1 Fee for the initial examination for licensure is \$70.00.

4.2.2 Fee for screening for exemption from examination is \$5.00.

4.2.3 Fee for issuance of licensing certificate is \$5.00.

4.2.4 Fee for biennial license renewal is \$25.00.

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4.2.5 All fees are payable to the American Association of State Social Work Boards, the designated examination organization for the Board of Social Work Examiners.

4.2.6 All fees paid to the Board are not refundable [30-30-11].

4.3 Appeals re denial of license.

4.3.1 Reconsideration - In cases where an applicant does not appear to meet the exemption requirements but believes that he or she should be considered for grandfathering because of his or her experience in social work practice, the candidate may submit the following for the Board's evaluation: documentation of (a) social work experience, paid or unpaid; (b) length of service; (c) evaluations and recommendations of employer and/or supervisor; (d) performance on equivalency examinations; (e) description of duties; (f) educational record and/or transcripts; (g) expectation of historically-understood career ladder; and any other information that would demonstrate that the applicant has met the intent of the law.

4.3.2 Reconsideration is decided on an individual basis and the Board cannot predetermine eligibility. The formal application for licensure must be denied and the applicant must file for reconsideration before a determination can be made.

4.3.3 Hearing - An applicant who is not satisfied with the decision of the Board may request a hearing before the Board to further appeal.

Section 5. Responsibilities of Licensee

5.1 Each licensee shall notify the Board of any change of address [30-30-3-e(3)].

5.2 Each license shall be prominently displayed by the licensee at his or her principal place of practice [30-30-10].

5.3 Continuing education requirement - [30-30-3-e(5)]

5.3.1 Fifty contact hours of continuing education (the equivalent of five CEU's) will be required within each two-year license period.

5.3.2 In the first renewal cycle of grandfathered licensees, continuing education credits earned from January 1985 forward may be submitted.

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5.3.3 Continuing education may be earned in: a. professional meetings and other formally organized learning events; b. individual professional activities. (See Appendix B.)

5.3.4 Only twenty of the fifty hours may be individual professional activities.

5.3.5 Training specifically related to policies and procedures of an agency may not be counted toward the continuing education requirements.

5.3.6 Licensees who have had no professional education in social work must include continuing education in social work ethics (five hours) and social work methods of practice (twenty hours) during the first renewal period: a. Methods of Practice represents a category of basic interventive techniques similar to those taught in the curriculum of Council on Social Work Education approved Social Work programs; b. Social Work ethics are basic fundamental guidelines of professional behavior as delineated within the West Virginia Social Work Code of Ethics. Ethics are integrated throughout most curricula of Council on Social Work Education approved Social Work programs.

5.3.7 The licensee must keep records to verify his/her continuing education. These records must cover what he/she did, when, where, hours of instruction, and instructor(s).

5.3.8 Continuing education provided by the following organizations is automatically accepted for continuing education requirements: American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy; American Orthopsychiatric Association; American Public Welfare Association; Child Welfare League of America; Council of Nephrology Social Workers; Council on Accreditation Accredited Agencies; Council on Social Work Education; West Virginia BSW or MSW programs; Family Service of American and member agencies; National Association of Black Social Workers; National Association of Social Workers; National Council on Aging; National Eligibility Workers Association; Society for Hospital Social Work Directors; West Virginia Association of Directors of Senior Programs, Inc.; West Virginia Association of School Social Service and Attendants Personnel; West Virginia Commission on Aging; West Virginia Department of Human Services, Training Division; West Virginia Health Department, Training Division; West Virginia Human Resources Association; Parkersburg Community College, Social Services Technology Program.

These approved providers shall adhere to criteria for continuing education providers. (See Appendix C)

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Page 4

5.3.9 The Board has developed requirements for providers of continuing education. Those individuals, organizations or institutions who wish to have an individual, organization approved or who wish to obtain approved provider status must document for the Board that they meet the criteria to obtain approval. (See Appendix C)

5.3.10 The Board will monitor and evaluate continuing education providers and the continuing education records of licensees. Each approved provider must maintain a record of at least three years.

5.3.11 The Chair will appoint a Board member to be the Board's continuing education coordinator. All inquiries regarding continuing education should be directed to that person. The name of the coordinator may be obtained from the Board of Social Work Examiners.

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Bd. of Social Work Exam.
Int. Rule, 30-30

CODE OF ETHICS

THE SOCIAL WORKER'S CONDUCT AND COMPORTMENT AS A SOCIAL WORKER

PROPRIETY — The social worker should maintain high standards of personal conduct in the capacity or identity as social worker.

COMPETENCE AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT — The social worker should strive to become and remain proficient in professional practice and the performance of professional functions.

SERVICE — The social worker should regard as primary the service obligation of the social work profession.

INTEGRITY — The social worker should act in accordance with the highest standards of professional integrity.

SCHOLARSHIP AND RESEARCH — The social worker engaged in study and research should be guided by the conventions of scholarly inquiry.

THE SOCIAL WORKER'S ETHICAL RESPONSIBILITY TO CLIENTS

PRIMACY OF CLIENTS' INTERESTS — The social worker's primary responsibility is to clients.

RIGHTS AND PREROGATIVES OF CLIENTS — The social worker should make every effort to foster maximum self-determination on the part of the clients.

CONFIDENTIALITY AND PRIVACY — The social worker should respect the privacy of clients and hold in confidence all information obtained in the course of professional service.

ADVERTISING — If a social worker engages in advertising, he/she must present services and credentials factually. A client shall not be intentionally or knowingly led to develop unrealistic expectations about the delivery of services.

FEES — When setting fees, the social worker should ensure that they are fair, reasonable, considerate, and commensurate with the service performed and with due regard for the client's ability to pay.

THE SOCIAL WORKER'S ETHICAL RESPONSIBILITY TO COLLEAGUES

RESPECT, FAIRNESS, AND COURTESY — The social worker should treat colleagues with respect, courtesy, fairness, and good faith.

DEALING WITH COLLEAGUES' CLIENTS — The social worker has the responsibility to relate to the clients of colleagues with full professional consideration.

THE SOCIAL WORKER'S ETHICAL RESPONSIBILITY TO EMPLOYERS AND EMPLOYING ORGANIZATIONS

COMMITMENTS TO EMPLOYING ORGANIZATIONS — The social worker should adhere to commitments made to the employing organizations.

THE SOCIAL WORKER'S ETHICAL RESPONSIBILITY TO THE SOCIAL WORK PROFESSION

MAINTAINING THE INTEGRITY OF THE PROFESSION — The social worker should uphold and advance the values, ethics, knowledge, and mission of the profession.

COMMUNITY SERVICE — The social worker should assist the profession in making social services available to the general public.

DEVELOPMENT OF KNOWLEDGE — The social worker should take responsibility for identifying, developing, and fully utilizing knowledge for professional practice.

THE SOCIAL WORKER'S ETHICAL RESPONSIBILITY TO SOCIETY

PROMOTING THE GENERAL WELFARE — The social worker should promote the general welfare of society.

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Bd. of Social Work Exam.
Int. Rule, 30-30

EXPLANATION OF CONTINUING EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS

CONTINUING EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS

1. Fifty (50) hours of continuing education is required within each two-year license period.
2. In the first renewal cycle of grandfathered licensees, continuing education credits earned from January 1, 1985, forward may be submitted.
3. Continuing education may be earned by participation in:
 - a. professional meetings and other formally organized learning events;
 - b. individual professional activities.

In a formal or structured learning situation, only hours of interaction between the learner and instructor (instructional hours) may be counted. An instructional hour is a minimum of fifty minutes in length. When counting hours, the following are excluded: time spent outside of class or seminar for study; assigned reading, written assignments or other related activities required for completion of a continuing education course; travel time, meeting time devoted to business, committee activities, entertainment, or social activities such as coffee hours, luncheons, dinners, etc. (Time for luncheon or dinner presentation that are an integral part of the educational experience may be included.) While there are factors, such as availability and accessibility, which may interfere with a social worker's ability to participate in educational activities, whenever possible, the social worker should plan a varied continuing education program. Progress toward the achievement of the required number of hours will be periodically monitored and licensees will be informed of their status. Continuing Education forms will be provided by the Board.

Formally organized learning events involve face-to-face interaction with a teacher for the purpose of accomplishing specific learning objectives. Courses, workshops, practice-oriented seminars, staff development, and training activities offered by accredited programs or social work education, professional social work organizations, and other providers of continuing education as well as formally-structured discussions among professionals about professional issues, whereby professionals increase their awareness of new developments in social work are examples of events in this category. Such events provide social workers with the opportunity to integrate theoretical and practice components of all forms of social work, including social change and action, administration and supervision, planning and policy development.

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Individual professional activities consist of a variety of self-directed professional study activities and growth experiences. A plan identifying the area(s) to be studied, why the area(s) were chosen, and what outcome the social worker expects must be developed. This purpose and goals statement should be in written format. Examples include writing papers and books for presentation or publication; making presentations on major professional issues or programs; reading professional journals and books; attending meetings, seminars, or courses which do not have approved provider status; preparing for initial consultation, teaching or training assignments (except when those are primary job responsibilities); and engaging in independent study, research, or tutorial projects.

4. Only twenty (20) of the fifty hours may be individual professional activities.
5. Training specifically related to policies and procedures of an agency may not be counted toward the continuing education requirements.
6. Licensees who have had no professional education in social work must include continuing education in social work ethics (five hours) and social work methods of practice (twenty hours) during the first renewal period.
 - a. Methods of practice represents a category of basic interventive techniques similar to those taught in the curriculum of Council on Social Work Education approved Social Work programs.
 - b. Social Work ethics are basic, fundamental guidelines of professional behavior as delineated within the West Virginia Social Work Code of Ethics. Ethics are integrated throughout most curricula of Council on Social Work Education approved Social Work programs.
7. The licensee must keep records to verify his/her continuing education. These records must cover what he/she did, when, where, hours of instruction, and instructor(s).

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Bd. of Social Work Exam.
Int. Rule, 30-30

CRITERIA FOR CONTINUING EDUCATION PROVIDERS

CONTINUING EDUCATION PROVIDER APPROVAL

Continuing education provided by the following organizations is automatically accepted for continuing education credits:

Approved Providers :

American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy
American Orthopsychiatric Association
American Public Welfare Association
Child Welfare League of America
Council of Nephrology Social Workers
Council on Accreditation accredited agencies
Council on Social Work Education
West Virginia BSW or MSW programs
Family Service of America and member agencies
National Association of Black Social Workers
National Association of Social Workers
National Council on Aging
National Eligibility Workers Association
Society for Hospital Social Work Directors
West Virginia Association of Directors of Senior Programs, Inc.
West Virginia Association of School Social Service and Attendants
Personnel
West Virginia Commission on Aging
West Virginia Department of Human Services, Training Division
West Virginia Health Department, Training Division
West Virginia Human Resources Association
Parkersburg Community College, Social Services Technology Program

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These approved providers shall adhere to criteria below, items 3 through 6.

CONTINUING EDUCATION PROVIDER REQUIREMENTS

The Board has developed requirements for providers of continuing education. Those individuals, organization or institutions who wish to have an individual session approved or who wish to obtain approved provider status must document for the Board that they meet the following criteria to obtain approval:

1. Each application must be submitted three months prior to the first scheduled program.
2. Each applicant must submit an educational plan which includes a written statement of purpose documenting how the material to be presented would enhance social work practice, values, skills, and knowledge.
3. A licensed social worker (or, prior to July 1, 1986, one who is eligible for licensing) shall be designated to be responsible for the coordination of the program to assure its professional relevancy and ethical considerations.

4. Each provider must develop:
 - a. a system for maintaining records, and
 - b. methods for the selection and evaluation of instructors, participant performance requirements, and provision of accessible and adequate space.
5. Each provider must maintain a summary of each individual program offered which documents:
 - a. the relationship of the program to enhancement of social work practice, values, skills, or knowledge;
 - b. the learning objectives for the program and the relationship between the program content and the objectives;
 - c. the licensing levels for which the program is designed and any program prerequisites;
 - d. The competency of the instructor in the subject matter;
 - e. the means of program evaluation;
 - f. the program agenda (the agenda shall clearly indicate all coffee and lunch breaks), and
 - g. the dates the program was given.
6. Provider approval may be withdrawn by the Board if the provider violates these rules and regulations, or if quality programs are not maintained to the Board's satisfaction.

The Board will monitor and evaluate continuing education providers and the continuing education records of licensees. Each approved provider must maintain a record of individual social worker's attendance for a period of at least three years.

The chair will appoint a Board member to be the Board's continuing education coordinator. All inquiries regarding continuing education should be directed to John David Smith, West Virginia Social Work Board Continuing Education Coordinator.

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WEST VIRGINIA PROCEDURAL RULES
BOARD OF SOCIAL WORK EXAMINERS
CHAPTER 30-30

SERIES 2

Subject: Organization and Procedures of the Board of Social Work Examiners

SECTION 1.	General
SECTION 2.	Organization of Meetings of the Board
SECTION 3.	Applications
SECTION 4.	Examinations
SECTION 5.	Availability of Rules and Regulations

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Title 25

~~WEST VIRGINIA~~ PROCEDURAL RULES
BOARD OF SOCIAL WORK EXAMINERS
~~CHAPTER 30-30~~
SERIES 2

Title: Organization and procedures of the West Virginia Board
of Social Work Examiners

Section 1. General

1.1 Scope - These procedural rules establish the organization of the Board of Social Work Examiners, the processing of applications for licensure, procedures for examinations, and availability of rules and regulations.

1.2 Authority - 30-30-4-d.

1.3 Filing Date - June 10, 1986

1.4 Effective Date - July 10, 1986

Section 2. Organization - 30-30-4-d

2.1 Meeting times - The Board shall meet at such times and places as it shall decide to conduct the necessary business of the Board, but not less than twice yearly. Meetings shall be open to the public in accordance with section 6-9A-3 of the West Virginia Code.

2.2 Quorum - A majority of the Board shall constitute a quorum.

Section 3. Applications

3.1 Application booklets are available from the Board of Social Work Examiners, P.O. Box 5477, Charleston, WV 25311, Board members, and from the Department of Human Services, 1900 Washington Street E, Charleston, WV 25305.

3.2 Instructions for completion of the application are included in the application booklet.

3.3 Application forms must be accompanied by three reference forms, an employment verification form, and a certified check or money order for the fee must be sent to the American Association of State Social Work Boards Processing Center to file the application.

3.4 If the applicant is to register for the examination, the application must be postmarked not less than sixty days prior to the examination date.

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3.5 The Board will review all sections of the application on a random basis, and the individual may be asked to verify information on the application.

Section 4. Examinations

4.1 Standard examinations will be offered three times a year in spring, summer, and fall at various locations in the state.

4.2 Examinations for the in lieu of provision - The Board may convene a panel of experts to advise and assist the Board in reviewing the competency of applicants using the in lieu of section to become licensed.

Section 5. Availability of rules and regulations

5.1 Rules and regulations will be available for a nominal fee from the Board of Social Work Examiners.

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W.V. Board of Social Work Examiners

Post Office Box 5477, Charleston, West Virginia 25311

June 10, 1986

Ken Hechler
Secretary of State
Bldg. 1, Capitol Complex
Charleston, WV 25305

Dear Secretary of State Hechler:

The Board of Social Work Examiners has held hearings on its procedural and interpretative rules. The attendance records and testimony of those hearings are enclosed. The Board has approved the rules and is hereby filing them with your office. They will become effective thirty days from the filing.

Sincerely,



Barbara Matz, Chair
BSWE

Encl.

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WEST VIRGINIA BOARD OF SOCIAL WORK EXAMINERS

CERTIFIED SOCIAL WORKER POSITIONS

- Barbara Matz
Women's Commission
State Capitol
Charleston, WV 25305
Office: 348-0070
Home: 529-2910
Term: 1988
- John Dayid Smith
6423 Emerson Avenue
Huntington, WV 25705
Office: 526-1037
Home: 736-9382
Term: 1987

GRADUATE SOCIAL WORKER POSITIONS

- Manuel J. Viola
51 - 11th Street
Wheeling, WV 26003
Office: 233-2350
Home: 242-0429
Term: 1988
- Katy Shultz
400 Junior Avenue
Morgantown, WV 26605
Office: 293-7283
Home: 599-1340
Term: 1987

SOCIAL WORKER POSITIONS

- Karen Leachman
10 Fairview Heights
Parkersburg, WV 26101
Office: 485-6748
Home: 422-2367
Term: 1988
- Margie Hale
Department of Human Services
1900 Washington Street, East
Charleston, WV 25305
Office: 348-2400
Home: 776-4327
Term: 1987

COMMUNITY POSITION

- Harry Burgess
2174 Oakridge Dr.
Charleston, WV 25311
Office: 252-8508
Home: 343-0860
Term: 1986

APPENDIX D.

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WEST VIRGINIA BOARD OF SOCIAL WORK EXAMINERS

INTERPRETIVE RULES

NAME	ADDRESS	I WISH TO TESTIFY
SAM HICKMAN	352 FRAME RD., ELKVIEW, WV 25071	NO
Judy Snyder-Pollard	1200 Quaker St. Ste 23-24, Charleston 25301	NO
Brenda Wansley	34 Homestead Dr. Williamstown, WV 26187	YES
Betty Ruard	Route 1 Box 63, Elmer, WV 26618	NO
Margaret Bishop	1127 Lombardway Rd, Charleston, WV 25314	NO
Ronelle B Gumbles	812 Gordon Dr. Chrs. W Va 25303	NO
Kevin Mehan	166 Hurst St., Morgantown 26505	NO
Phyllis J. Nash	27 Cedarwood Drive Morgantown 26505	NO
Jan Cline	Rt. 4 Box 230-A Morgantown WV 26505	NO
Margaret Balconi	P.O. Box 106 Maysel WV 25133	NO
Karen Glazier	4102 Fallam Dr. - Malden, WV 25306	NO
Nancy Bohmann	112 Morgan Dr, Morgantown WV 26505	NO
Roy F. Johnson	51 Old main Plaza ST. ALBANS	NO
Queth Transue	434 Clark St. Smorgantown W Va	NO
Kate Smith	400 Junior Ave. Morgantown	NO
John David Smith	6423 Emerson Ave Huntington WV 25905	NO
Barker [unclear]	704 13th Ave Htn WV	
Clay [unclear]	5426 W. Kana Cr., Charlat. W.V.	NO

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BOARD OF SOCIAL WORK EXAMINERS
PUBLIC HEARING
INTERPRETATIVE RULES
JANUARY 10, 1986
10:00 a.m.

TESTIMONY

My name is Brenda Wamsley and I am the president-elect of the West Virginia NASW. As an active member of NASW, I have served as the chairperson of the Social Work Licensing Task Force since 1980. In that capacity, I was involved in assessing the need for social work regulation in West Virginia, in assisting in the development of the legislation relating to licensure, in lobbying for its passage, and in evaluating its effectiveness since it became law in 1984. My commitment to this issue of professional standards of practice and consumer protection has been long, active and enduring.

West Virginia Code, Article 30-30-2 relating to social work licensure gives the Board of Social Work Examiners broad powers of interpretation of some of its provisions, especially those relating to qualifications for licensure as a social worker. In exercising this power, the Board has the responsibility to consider a wide range of relevant factors such as the accessibility of social work education and training within the state, past and present hiring practice of employers in the state, demographic characteristics of the state's population, and unique geographic characteristics of West Virginia which historically has affected the recruitment of qualified professionals in certain sections of the state. In considering these factors, however, the Board must also realize its responsibility to preserve the intent and integrity of the law. I know that this has been a challenge to the Board, and upon reviewing the interpretative rules of the Board, I believe that it has responsibly and effectively met that challenge.

As a professional social worker, I support and endorse the five sections of interpretative rules being addressed today. Certainly, the sections relating to ethics and continuing education are consistent with professional standards as set forth by NASW. The sections relating to applications and qualifications are both flexible and fair. The Board's interpretation of the criteria for grandfathering as well as the provision for the in lieu of requirements reflects its commitment to insure that entry into the profession is not restricted by this law and at the same time, to insure that the citizens of West Virginia are protected from unqualified or unethical professionals.

In summary, I believe that these interpretative rules will effectively assist in fulfilling the purposes for which this law was enacted.

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My name is Nancy Lohmann. I am Dean of the School of Social Work at West Virginia University. My testimony takes the form of questions about Sections 5.3.7, 5.3.8 and continuing uncertainty in my mind about the relationship between those two sections. Uncertainty that as I read the law more carefully after the December 13 meeting I found even the question I had raised at that meeting had not been resolved. 5.3.7 specifies criteria for continuing education providers and I think it very important, in particular, that those who provide continuing education which meets the requirements of licensure be social workers or at least the education be reviewed and designed by social workers.

Under 5.3.8 it appears as if certain organizations are being accepted as providers of continuing education without having to go through the process identified in Appendix C - The Criteria for Continuing Education Providers. I fear that may mean with some of the organizations listed that a social worker may not be involved in the design of the continuing education and thus it may be possible for an organization to be recognized as a provider when the education provided does not meet all of the things that those of us who are in this profession wish for it to meet. Now I am not certain that if that concern comes from misunderstanding on my part of the relationship between 5.3.7 and 5.3.8. I felt it important, however, that I draw this concern to the Board's attention because I felt if it wasn't completely clear to me after reading the section a couple of times it might not be completely clear to others including those who may be providers. I would hope if indeed there is ambiguity and its simply not my inability to understand the relationship that the Board will recognize that there are some continuing education providers who perhaps don't need to meet all of the things identified under criteria.

For example, I would hope that the West Virginia School of Social Work would not need to submit a training plan three months in advance of every continuing education that we do. But I would also hope in recognizing some of the provider organizations such as the American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy, the American Orthopsychiatric Association, the West Virginia Commission on Aging, the West Virginia Department of Health who may or may not have social workers involved in the development of their continuing education programs. I would hope that that requirement could be applied to all organizations whether you are recognized formally as a provider or someone who may apply as a provider status.

Thank you.

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W.V. Board of Social Work Examiners

Post Office Box 5477, Charleston, West Virginia 25311

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Pursuant to Section five, Article three, Chapter twenty-nine-A of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, the Board of Social Work Examiners shall convene a public hearing at 1:00 p.m. on January 10, 1986 in the Commissioners Conference Room, Building 6, 1900 Washington Street East, Charleston, WV 25305 for the purpose of taking evidence pertaining to the filing of proposed procedural rule Organization and procedures of the West Virginia Board of Social Work Examiners.

Any interested party may appear in person to present evidence. Any interested party may submit written evidence at the public hearing or by mail to the Board of Social Work Examiners, P.O. Box 5477, Charleston, WV 25311. All comments, written or oral, will be made a part of the public hearing record. The Board requests that parties wishing to comment please submit written copies of their comments in order to facilitate review of the comments.

The issues to be heard shall be limited to the proposed rules. Copies of the proposed rule may be obtained by telephoning (304) 348-0070 or writing to the Board of Social Work Examiners, P.O. Box 5477, Charleston, WV 25311.

Barbara Matz, Chair
Board of Social Work Examiners

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