

111TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1710

To include family therapists on the list of professionals recognized to provide public school mental health services under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 25, 2009

Mr. SOUDER (for himself, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. HARE, and Mr. YARMUTH) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Education and Labor

A BILL

To include family therapists on the list of professionals recognized to provide public school mental health services under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. INCLUSION OF FAMILY THERAPISTS.**

4 The Elementary and Secondary Education Act of
5 1965 (20 U.S.C. 6301 et seq.) is amended—

6 (1) in section 4151 (20 U.S.C. 7161)—

7 (A) in paragraph (9), by inserting “family
8 therapist,” after “school social worker,”; and

(B) in paragraph (10), by inserting “State licensed or State certified family therapists,” after “psychologists,”;

(2) in section 5421 (20 U.S.C. 7245)—

(A) in subsection (a)(2)(A), by striking “, and students to school psychologists” and inserting “, students to school psychologists, and students to family therapists”;

(B) in subsection (c)(2)—

(i) in subparagraph (D), by striking “, or child and adolescent psychiatrists” and inserting “, child and adolescent psychiatrists, or family therapists”;

(ii) in subparagraph (G), by striking “, and child and adolescent psychiatrists” and inserting “, child and adolescent psychiatrists, and family therapists”; and

(iii) in subparagraph (L), by striking “, or child and adolescent psychiatrists” and inserting “, child and adolescent psychiatrists, or family therapists”;

(C) in subsection (e)—

(i) in paragraph (4)(C), by striking “and” after the semicolon at the end;

1 (ii) in paragraph (5)(B)(ii), by strik-
2 ing the period at the end and inserting “;
3 and”; and

4 (iii) by adding at the end the fol-
5 lowing:

6 “(6) the term ‘family therapist’ means an indi-
7 vidual who—

8 “(A) is licensed or certified in marriage
9 and family therapy by the State in which the
10 individual works; and

11 “(B) practices in the scope of the individ-
12 ual’s education, training, and experience with
13 children in school settings.”; and

14 (D) in subsection (f)(2)—

15 (i) in subparagraph (B), by striking
16 “and” after the semicolon;

17 (ii) in subparagraph (C), by striking
18 the period at the end and inserting “;
19 and”; and

20 (iii) by adding at the end the fol-
21 lowing:

22 “(D) family therapists.”; and

23 (3) in section 9101(36)(A) (20 U.S.C.
24 7801(36)(A)), by inserting “State licensed or State

- 1 certified family therapists,” after “school psycholo-
- 2 gists,”.

