



2009 Legislation Signed Into Law

Goals of 2009 BOSW Legislative Proposal

- No substantive policy changes
- Necessary technical/housekeeping changes to licensing provisions in Minnesota Statutes 148D (Board's current statute) and Minnesota Statutes, Sections 148E (Board's recodified statute which is effective August 1, 2011)
 - Clarification of definitions
 - Clarification of the documentation and reporting of supervised practice
 - Technical corrections
 - Transition language for increased supervised practice and continuing education for all licenses effective August 1, 2011
 - Clarification of the increased standards for clinical supervised practice requirements, including the direct clinical client contact requirement effective August 1, 2011
- Maintain current licensing fee rates, with an additional 10% reduction as current, temporary fee reduction effective January 1, 2006, expires June 30, 2009

Non-Controversial Legislative Proposal

The stakeholder groups involved with the development of the 2007 legislation initiated many of the technical/housekeeping changes and strongly supported the legislation, including the fee proposal. These groups include the Board's Advisory Committee, social work associations, ad hoc work groups, and social work educators.

BOSW Reduced Fees

- Chapter 79 (HF 1362) signed by the Governor on May 14
- 10% reductions to current fee rates, effective January 1, 2006, were signed into law
- Effective July 1, 2009, reductions made to renewal fees for all licenses by 10% (beginning with July 2009 birth-month renewals); renewal late fees from 1/3 to 1/4 of the applicable renewal fee (beginning with July 2009 birth-month renewals); and reductions to initial licensing fees for all licenses by 10% (beginning with fees received on or after July 1, 2009)
- Reduces license, renewal and temporary leave fees additional 10%:
 - LSW: \$ 90.00 to \$ 81.00
 - LGSW: \$160.00 to \$144.00
 - LISW: \$240.00 to \$216.00
 - LICSW: \$265.00 to \$238.50
- Reduces renewal late fees from 1/3 of renewal fee to 1/4 of renewal fee:
 - LSW: \$30.00 to \$20.25
 - LGSW: \$53.33 to \$56.00
 - LISW: \$80.00 to \$54.00
 - LICSW: \$88.33 to \$59.63
- All other fees remain the same as current rates

BOSW Housekeeping Policy Provisions to 148D and 148E

- Chapter 157 (HF 1745) signed by the Governor on May 21
- Housekeeping policy provisions, as noted in the goals section above, signed into law
- Article 2 contains policy changes to 148D, effective August 1, 2009; Article 3 contains policy changes to 148E, including housekeeping changes to the clinical licensing and other licensing requirements effective August 1, 2011

BOSW Appropriations and Transfer of Accumulated Balance Funds

- Chapter 173 (HF 1988) signed by the Governor on May 22
- Provides \$921,000 for BOSW appropriations for fiscal years 2010 and 2011 in Article 2
- Contains language, amending Chapter 79, for the transfer of funds from the Health Licensing Boards (HLBs) State Government Special Revenue Fund surplus funds to the State General Fund
 - Total transfer amount is \$6 million from the accumulated balance and will be allocated to "boards carrying a positive balance as of July 1, 2009"
 - Transfer date changed from fiscal year 2010 to fiscal year 2011 (beginning July 1, 2010)

Statewide Enterprise Electronic Licensing Initiative

- Chapter 101 (SF 2082) signed by the Governor on May 16
- Minnesota Office of Enterprise Technology (OET) proposed an Enterprise e-Licensing system, a "one-stop shop" for business and professional licenses to be obtained through a secure, single point of entry
- A surcharge will be assessed for licenses and renewals issued to fund the e-Licensing system's completion, migration of agencies to the system, and operation and maintenance
- Requires Health Licensing Boards to assess a surcharge for licenses and renewals issued:
 - Collect a surcharge of 10% of the licensing fee, but no less than \$5, and no more than \$150, for the period July 1, 2009 through June 30, 2015
 - Provides that Health Licensing Boards may transfer funds from the State Government Special Revenue Fund to cover the surcharge
 - **BOSW action May 15, 2009, to approve transfer of funds from the BOSW accumulated balance in the State Government Special Revenue Fund for fiscal year 2010 (beginning July 1, 2009) to cover surcharge rather than assess surcharge to licensees at this time**
 - If Minnesota Management & Budget determines that insufficient funds exist to transfer funds, then surcharge must be required
 - Health Licensing Board systems will not be migrated to the new system before July 1, 2011

Additional Information

- Fee reductions will be implemented in accordance with the July 1, 2009 effective date as it applies to required renewal and licensing fees
- Board website address: www.socialwork.state.mn.us
- Board email address: social.work@state.mn.us