

# VIRGINIA ACTS OF ASSEMBLY -- 2013 SESSION

## CHAPTER 201

*An Act to amend and reenact § 54.1-3503 of the Code of Virginia, relating to Board of Counseling; confirmation of appointments by General Assembly.*

[H 1702]

Approved March 12, 2013

**Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:**

**1. That § 54.1-3503 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows:**

**§ 54.1-3503. Board of Counseling.**

The Board of Counseling shall regulate the practice of counseling, substance abuse treatment, and marriage and family therapy.

The Board shall consist of ~~fourteen~~ 14 members to be appointed by the Governor, subject to confirmation by the General Assembly. Twelve shall be professionals licensed in Virginia, who shall represent the various specialties recognized in the profession, and two shall be citizen members. Of the ~~twelve~~ 12 professional members, eight shall be professional counselors, two shall be marriage and family therapists, and two shall be licensed substance abuse treatment practitioners. The professional members of the Board shall include two full-time faculty members engaged in teaching counseling, substance abuse treatment or marriage and family therapy in an accredited college or university in this Commonwealth, and two professional counselors engaged in full-time private practice. However, the marriage and family therapists initially appointed to the Board shall not be required to be licensed, shall not be licensed by another board in the Department of Health Professions, and shall be clinical members of the American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy. The licensed substance abuse treatment practitioners initially appointed to the Board shall not be required to be licensed, shall not be licensed by another board in the Department of Health Professions, shall be active members of the Virginia Association of Alcoholism and Drug Abuse Counselors and shall have a master's degree in substance abuse or a substantially equivalent master's degree.

The terms of the members of the Board shall be four years.