

HB 326 -- SOCIAL WORKERS

SPONSOR: Sutherland

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "do pass by consent" by the Special Committee on Professional Registration and Licensing by a vote of 11 to 0.

This bill revises the definition of "clinical social work" to include community organization, planning, and evaluation and prohibits any entity, public or private, from using any title or abbreviation for identifying a volunteer or employee as a social worker unless he or she meets the required licensing criteria.

FISCAL NOTE: No impact on state funds in FY 2010, FY 2011, and FY 2012.

PROPOSERS: Supporters say that the definition of "clinical social worker" needs to be clarified due to some language which was mistakenly omitted in House Bill 780 in 2007.

Testifying for the bill were Representative Sutherland; National Association of Social Workers; and State Committee for Social Workers, Department of Insurance, Financial Institutions and Professional Registration.

OPPOSERS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.