

unless he shall have a valid, unexpired, unrevoked and unsuspended license pursuant to this Act, and for any person to practice, or to offer to practice, or to represent himself to practice counseling and psychotherapy unless he shall have an appropriate valid, unexpired, unrevoked and unsuspended license to do so, endorsed pursuant to section 7 (B), except as hereinafter provided.

Would you find that language objectionable?

Dr. CUMMINGS. My present memory is that we do not find that objectionable. Let me check my notes.

Mr. SISK. It is proposed in Section 5, at the bottom of page 3, line 21, to strike, starting after the comma, the words "unless he shall first obtain" and the rest of the clause, and to insert in lieu thereof the somewhat more lengthy language I read, which seemingly is just clarification. I am not sure.

Dr. MELTZER. That is the separation of counseling and psychotherapy. This is a continuing thing psychiatrists have done in their version, and I am not sure why, because the bill itself makes it very clear a psychologist cannot practice in an area for which he is not trained. If he is not a counseling or clinical psychologist, he does not do psychotherapy.

I am not sure at all why this continual separating out of these two terms is necessary. It certainly is unprecedented in other situations as far as I know of. Does a lawyer get a separate or special license to do marriage counseling versus corporate law versus doing income taxes? Does a physician get one license to do surgery and another to do psychotherapy? No.

Certainly nothing could be more different than psychotherapy and surgery, for example. But the place this is handled is in the regulation itself, which says a psychologist must do what he is trained to do, what he is qualified to do, what he has experience to do. If he does not, he loses his license.

We have no control like this right now. There is no control like this. All you can do is throw him out of the local society of the American Psychological Association. This is included. Why separate it out? I do not think it is necessary. It is taken care of in the bill.

Frankly, this is not the problem. If the psychiatrists are worried about who does psychotherapy, they should look at their own house. It is the physicians, not the psychiatrists, but medically trained physicians who are not psychiatrists, who are doing psychotherapy and counseling that they are not trained for. There is nobody stopping them. This is one of the great problems. There is no training in medical school in psychotherapy. They will tell you there might be a course or so, but a psychiatrist learns to do psychotherapy after medical school, in residency primarily.

I think this is much more of a problem in medicine than it is in psychology. We have it taken care of in this bill.

Mr. SISK. As I understand what you are referring to here as objectionable is the "or to represent himself to practice counseling and psychotherapy" as separating it out. Do I understand correctly?

Dr. MELTZER. That is correct.

Mr. SISK. I notice throughout the bill in the proposed amendments there is the term "counseling and psychotherapy." In other words, this is the rock on which the ship will break up. I would like to call on