

House Bill 206 (COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE)

By: Representatives Gardner of the 42<sup>nd</sup>, Post 3, Childers of the 13<sup>th</sup>, Post 1, Hembree of the 46<sup>th</sup> and Drenner of the 57<sup>th</sup>

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
AN ACT

1 To amend Code Section 43-10A-7 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to  
2 licensing requirements for professional counselors, social workers, and marriage and family  
3 therapists, so as to provide an exemption from such requirements for certain persons  
4 providing certain disaster relief services; to provide for related matters; to provide an  
5 effective date; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

6 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

7 **SECTION 1.**

8 Code Section 43-10A-7 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to licensing  
9 requirements for professional counselors, social workers, and marriage and family therapists,  
10 is amended by striking the word "and" at the end of paragraph (17) of subsection (b); by  
11 replacing the period at the end of paragraph (18) of subsection (b) with the symbol and word  
12 "; and"; and by adding at the end of subsection (b) a new paragraph (19) to read as follows:  
13 "(19) Persons currently licensed to practice a specialty in another jurisdiction and who  
14 are practicing such specialty within a defined disaster area in order to alleviate the impact  
15 on persons affected by a disaster as defined in paragraph (1) of Code Section 38-3-91 or  
16 a state of emergency as defined in paragraph (7) of Code Section 38-3-3, but only when  
17 such specialty services are provided without cost to the recipients, and only for a  
18 maximum of thirty consecutive days following a disaster or a state of emergency."

19 **SECTION 2.**

20 This Act shall become effective upon its approval by the Governor or upon its becoming law  
21 without such approval.

22 **SECTION 3.**

23 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.