

House Bill 206 (COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE)

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

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23 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.