

OCDP Board Announces Introduction of Senate Bill 287

The Ohio Chemical Dependency Professionals Board is pleased to announce the introduction of Senate Bill (SB) 287, sponsored by State Senators Frank LaRose and Capri Cafaro. The legislation will increase access and provide a more reasonable pathway and incentive for new and existing professionals to advance in the addictions treatment and prevention fields while simultaneously strengthening the foundational knowledge of its entry level workforce. The following are summaries of the changes proposed in SB 287.

Treatment

For all levels of licensure, the addiction counseling work requirement will be 2000 hours with 220 of those hours being specified in the 12 core functions. The addictions specific education will be 180 hours in specified content areas. The bill also creates a new non-clinical supervisor independent level. A person seeking clinical supervision authority will still have to have an additional 4000 hours of clinical supervision work experience.

Prevention

SB 287 will establish a new level, the Certified Prevention Specialist Assistant (OCPSA), and realign the Prevention Specialist Certification (OCPS) requirements. The OCPSA will require 45 hours of prevention related education and 100 hours of supervised work experience. The OCPS I will require an associates degree or higher, 2000 hours of work experience and 100 hours of prevention related education. The OCPS II will require a bachelor's degree or higher, 6000 hours of work experience, 4000 of which must be administrative or supervisory experience, 100 hours of prevention related education and 90 hours of administrative or supervisory related education.

For additional information about SB 287 please go to the Board's website, www.ocdp.ohio.gov and click on the Laws and Rules link. You may also call the Board Office at (614) 387-1110 or email Bob Field, OCDP Board Executive Director, at bob.field@ocdp.state.oh.us .