

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA**  
**SESSION 2017**

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**HOUSE BILL 478**

Short Title: Required Experience for MH/DD/SA QPs. (Public)

Sponsors: Representatives Dobson, S. Martin, K. Hall, and Brisson (Primary Sponsors).  
*For a complete list of sponsors, refer to the North Carolina General Assembly web site.*

Referred to: Health

March 27, 2017

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT TO ALLOW ALL YEARS OF FULL-TIME MENTAL HEALTH,  
2 DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITY, AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE SERVICE TO APPLY  
3 TO THE QUALIFICATIONS REQUIRED BY THE MEDICAID PROGRAM FOR  
4 QUALIFIED PROFESSIONALS.  
5

6 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

7 **SECTION 1.** The Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) shall amend  
8 the qualifications for Qualified Professionals within the mental health, developmental  
9 disability, and substance abuse (MH/DD/SA) system of care, as defined in rule, clinical care  
10 policies for the Medicaid program, and the North Carolina Medicaid State Plan. Qualifications  
11 for Qualified Professionals shall allow for all years of full-time MH/DD/SA service experience  
12 to qualify as years of service, rather than limiting qualifying full-time MH/DD/SA service to  
13 that which is obtained post-graduate degree only. No later than October 1, 2017, any necessary  
14 State Plan amendment to effect these changes shall be submitted by DHHS to the Centers for  
15 Medicare and Medicaid.

16 **SECTION 2.** Any changes to clinical coverage policies and any changes to rules  
17 adopted by the Department of Health and Human Services relating to the qualifications for  
18 Qualified Professionals required under Section 1 of this act shall not become effective until  
19 CMS approval of the State Plan amendments submitted by DHHS to effect these changes has  
20 been received.

21 **SECTION 3.** This act is effective when it becomes law.

