



STATE OF ILLINOIS  
EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR  
SPRINGFIELD 62706

**JB PRITZKER**  
GOVERNOR

March 22, 2022

To the Honorable Members of the Illinois General Assembly:

In compliance with the requirements set forth in the Illinois Regulatory Sunset Act (5 ILCS 80), my office has conducted a review of the Professional Counselor and Clinical Professional Counselor Licensing and Practice Act (225 ILCS 107), which is scheduled to sunset on January 1, 2023. As a result of this review, it is recommended to the General Assembly that:

The Professional Counselor and Clinical Professional Counselor Licensing and Practice Act (225 ILCS 107) should be continued with the following modifications to its existing statutory and administrative rule framework.

- Update the language to comport with recently updated acts.
- Remove outdated language (i.e. sections allowing for grandfathering if applied for licensure prior to the effective date of the act, roster language, etc.) to minimize confusion

The absence of regulation of the clinical professional counseling industry would pose a significant and direct harm to the health, safety, and welfare of the public. The purpose of regulating professional counselors is to protect and benefit the public by setting standards of qualifications, education, training, and experience for those who seek to engage in the independent practice of clinical professional counseling and in the practice of professional counseling in the State of Illinois. Professional Counselor's work with vulnerable populations therefore, regulation is necessary to ensure proper oversight. Obtaining a license and holding the title of professional counselor helps to promote high standards of care and professional competence for those licensed to practice professional counseling and clinical professional counseling in the State of Illinois. Furthermore, regulating the industry also helps to protect the public from unprofessional conduct by persons licensed to practice professional counseling and the independent practice of clinical professional counseling.

Without the reauthorization of the Professional Counselor and Clinical Professional Counselor Licensing and Practice Act, the quality and ethical standards of the clinical professional counseling industry would pose a significant risk to the health safety and welfare of the people of Illinois.

The full report provided by the Governor's Office of Management and Budget is provided as reference.

Very Sincerely and Respectfully,  
JB Pritzker  
Governor