



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

207 STATE HOUSE
SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS 62706

JB PRITZKER
GOVERNOR

May 8, 2026

To the Honorable Members of the Illinois General Assembly:

As required by Section 5 of the Illinois Regulatory Sunset Act (5 ILCS 80/1 *et seq.*), the Governor's Office of Management and Budget (GOMB) facilitated a study with the Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulation (IDFPR), the agency responsible for oversight of the Marriage and Family Therapy Licensing Act (225 ILCS 55/1 *et seq.*) (the Act). This letter transmits the results of this study and provides justification to continue the Act.

The Act governs the licensure provided by IDFPR of professional marriage and family therapists in the State of Illinois. The absence of licensed marriage and family therapists would pose a significant and direct harm to the safety and welfare of the public. The practice of marriage and family therapy deeply impacts the mental and behavioral health of the public. The lack of regulation would eliminate the professional standards to which individuals who are a significant part of Illinois' healthcare system are held. The Marriage and Family Therapy Licensing Act ensures that marriage and family therapists working in Illinois are properly qualified to work on issues that affect public health and safety.

Based on the factors in 5 ILCS 80/6 and the additional criteria in 5 ILCS 80/7, GOMB finds that the Act should be recommended for continuation. The record should expressly state that the public protection benefits of regulation outweigh the regulatory costs and that no less restrictive alternative would adequately address the significant and discernible harms identified in this report.

My office has reviewed this report and agrees with the recommendation to continue the Act. I present this report to the General Assembly for consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "JB Pritzker".

Governor JB Pritzker