

March 4, 2025

Via email only

Joint Legislative Commission on Governmental Operations

Email: govops@ncleg.net

Joint Legislative Administrative Procedure Oversight Committee

Email: Virginia.barlow@ncleg.gov

Re: Report on Regulatory Flexibility
Section 4E.1 of SL 2024-53

Dear Committee Members,

The North Carolina Marriage and Family Therapy Board (the “Board”) hereby submits this report on its use of regulatory flexibility, in accordance with Section 4E.1 of Session Law 2024-53.

Session Law 2024-53

Promulgated in October 2024, Session Law 2024-53 provides in Section 4E.1(b) that:

Notwithstanding any other provision of State law, if a State agency determines that, due to the impacts of Hurricane Helene in the affected area, it is in the public interest, including the public health, safety, and welfare and the economic well-being of the citizens and businesses of the affected area, the agency shall do all of the following:

- (1) Delay the renewal dates of employment-related certifications issued by the agency pursuant to its statutes for residents of the affected area.
- (2) Delay or modify any educational or examination requirements for employment-related certifications implemented by the agency pursuant to its statutes for residents of the affected area.

In this legislation, the General Assembly directed each State agency in the executive branch of government in North Carolina, no later than March 1, 2025, to report to the Joint Legislative Administrative Procedure Oversight Committee and the Joint Legislative Commission on Governmental Operations on its use of regulatory flexibility under this Section 4E.

Board Implementation of Session Law 2024-53

Since October 2024, the Board has implemented the directives of SL 2024-53 as follows:

- The Board created an application for licensed Marriage and Family Therapists in the states of VA, TN, SC, GA to apply for an emergency waiver. This waiver allowed these licensees to obtain NC LMFT licensure (expiring March 1, 2025) to practice with clients in NC. This waiver was free of charge and available on the Board's website, www.ncbmft.org.

Please contact me directly at executivedirector@ncbmft.org with any questions.

Regards,

Paola Learoyd Gibbs
Executive Director