



General Assembly

Amendment

January Session, 2025

LCO No. 8631



Offered by:
REP. WEIR, 55th Dist.

To: Senate Bill No. 1373

File No. 290

Cal. No. 597

**"AN ACT REQUIRING THE LICENSURE OF LACTATION
CONSULTANTS."**

1 Strike everything after the enacting clause and substitute the
2 following in lieu thereof:

3 "Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2026*) As used in this section and
4 section 2 of this act:

5 (1) "Lactation consultant" means a person who holds and maintains
6 certification in good standing as an international board lactation
7 consultant with the International Board of Lactation Consultant
8 Examiners; and

9 (2) "Lactation consulting" means a clinical application of scientific
10 principles and a multidisciplinary body of evidence for evaluation,
11 problem identification, treatment, education and consultation to
12 families regarding the course of lactation and feeding, including, but not
13 limited to, the following services:

- 14 (A) Taking maternal, child and feeding histories;
- 15 (B) Performing clinical assessments related to breastfeeding and
16 human lactation through the systematic collection of subjective and
17 objective information;
- 18 (C) Analyzing relevant information and data;
- 19 (D) Developing an unbiased lactation management and child feeding
20 plan with demonstration and instruction to parents;
- 21 (E) Providing lactation and feeding education, including, but not
22 limited to, recommendations for and training in the use of assistive
23 devices for lactation and breastfeeding;
- 24 (F) Communicating to a primary health care practitioner and
25 referring to other health care practitioners, as necessary;
- 26 (G) Conducting appropriate follow-up appointments and evaluating
27 outcomes; and
- 28 (H) Documenting patient encounters in a patient record.
- 29 Sec. 2. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2026*) (a) The commissioner shall (1)
30 conduct an ongoing review of lactation consultant education and
31 training programs, (2) provide a list of approved lactation consultant
32 education and training programs, which shall include training in core
33 lactation consultant competencies, and (3) recommend lactation
34 consultant continuing education requirements to the commissioner.
- 35 (b) (1) On and after October 1, 2025, no person shall use the title
36 "lactation consultant" or the designation "IBCLC" or "L.C." unless such
37 person is certified pursuant to this section.
- 38 (2) The provisions of this section shall not apply to a person who (A)
39 is licensed by the Department of Public Health pursuant to title 20 of the
40 general statutes or by the Department of Consumer Protection pursuant
41 to chapter 400j of the general statutes and providing lactation consulting

42 while acting within the scope of practice of the person's license or
43 certification, provided the person does not refer to himself or herself by
44 the term "lactation consultant", (B) is a student enrolled in a lactation
45 consulting educational program or an accredited education program the
46 completion of which is required for licensure or certification by the
47 Department of Public Health pursuant to title 20 of the general statutes
48 or by the Department of Consumer Protection pursuant to chapter 400j
49 of the general statutes, lactation consulting is a part of the student's
50 course of study and the student is performing such consulting under
51 appropriate program supervision, provided the student does not refer
52 to himself or herself by the term "lactation consultant", (C) provides
53 lactation education and support through the federal Special
54 Supplemental Food Program for Women, Infants and Children,
55 administered pursuant to section 19a-59c of the general statutes, or any
56 other federally funded nutrition assistance program administered in the
57 state, to participants in such program while acting within the person's
58 job description and training, provided the person does not refer to
59 himself or herself by the term "lactation consultant", (D) is a community
60 health worker, as defined in section 20-195ttt of the general statutes, and
61 providing lactation support to a HUSKY Health program member,
62 provided the community health worker does not refer to himself or
63 herself by the term "lactation consultant", (E) provides education, social
64 support, peer support, peer counseling or nonclinical services relating
65 to lactation and feeding, provided the person does not refer to himself
66 or herself by the term "lactation consultant", (F) is a doula or midwife
67 and providing services within the doula's or midwife's scope of practice
68 and for which the doula or midwife is trained, provided the doula or
69 midwife does not refer to himself or herself by the term "lactation
70 consultant", or (G) is a public health professional and engaging in
71 outreach, engagement, education, coaching, informal counseling, social
72 support, advocacy, care coordination or research related to social
73 determinants of health or a basic screening or assessment of any risk
74 associated with social determinants of health, provided the professional
75 does not refer to himself or herself by the term "lactation consultant".

76 (c) Each person seeking certification to practice as a lactation
77 consultant shall apply to the Department of Public Health, on forms
78 prescribed by the commissioner. Such application shall include: (1)
79 Proof that the applicant is eighteen years of age or older; (2) two
80 reference letters from families or professionals with direct knowledge of
81 the applicant's experience as a lactation consultant verifying the
82 applicant's training or experience; and (3) a demonstration of the
83 applicant's completion of a lactation training program or a combination
84 of such programs approved pursuant to subsection (a) of this section.

85 (d) The commissioner shall adopt continuing education requirements
86 for lactation consultants provided by the commissioner pursuant to
87 subsection (a) of this section.

88 (e) Certification issued under this section may be renewed every
89 three years. The certification shall be renewed in accordance with the
90 provisions for renewal under section 19a-88 of the general statutes. Each
91 lactation consultant applying for renewal shall provide to the
92 commissioner evidence of completion of the continuing education
93 requirements adopted pursuant to subsection (a) of this section.

94 (f) The commissioner may take any disciplinary action set forth in
95 section 19a-17 of the general statutes against a lactation consultant for
96 failure to conform to the accepted standards of the profession,
97 including, but not limited to, any of the following reasons: (1) Fraud or
98 deceit in obtaining or seeking reinstatement of a certification to practice
99 as a lactation consultant; (2) engaging in fraud or material deception in
100 the course of professional services or activities; (3) negligent,
101 incompetent or wrongful conduct in professional activities; (4) aiding or
102 abetting the use of the title "lactation consultant" by an individual who
103 is not certified pursuant to this section; (5) physical, mental or emotional
104 illness or disorder resulting in an inability to conform to the accepted
105 standards of the profession; or (6) abuse or excessive use of drugs,
106 including alcohol, narcotics or chemicals."

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>July 1, 2026</i>	New section
Sec. 2	<i>July 1, 2026</i>	New section