



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

NEWS RELEASE

PO BOX 004
CONTACT: Pete McDonough
Gene Herman
(609) 777-2600

TRENTON, NJ 08625
RELEASE: January 12, 1998



Gov. Whitman Signed Legislation - S-685

Gov. Christie Whitman signed the following piece of legislation:

S-685, sponsored by Senators Robert W. Singer (R- Burlington/Monmouth/Ocean) and Edward T. O'Connor, Jr. (D-Hudson) and Assembly Members Melvin Cottrell (R-Burlington/Monmouth/Ocean) and Joseph R. Malone (R-Burlington/Monmouth/Ocean), establishes the Alcohol and Drug Counselor Licensing Act. The law provides for the licensing of clinical alcohol and drug counselors and the certification of alcohol and drug counselors by the State Board of Marriage and Family Therapy Counselors. Only licensed clinical alcohol and drug counselors may engage in the independent practice of alcohol and drug counseling for a fee. Certified alcohol and drug counselors may practice under the supervision of a licensed clinical alcohol and drug counselors. The Governor signed a line-item veto to eliminate a \$95,000 appropriation included in the bill. The licensing fees should adequately cover the cost of the licensing agency from its inception.

####

