

The Georgia Board of Examiners of Licensed Dietitians met on February 17, 2012, via teleconference at the Professional Licensing Boards Division of the Secretary of State located at 237 Coliseum Drive, Macon, Georgia.

### **MEMBERS PRESENT**

Jessie Wright, MS, RD, LD, Chair  
Joan Fischer, PhD, RD, LD  
Page Love, MS, RD, LD  
Tracey Neely, MS, RD, LD  
Nancy Walters, MMSC, RD, LD, Cognizant  
Frances Cook, MA, RD, LD

### **MEMBERS ABSENT**

Dee Dee Williams, Consumer Member

### **STAFF PRESENT**

James Cleghorn, Executive Director  
Wylencia Monroe, JD, Assistant Attorney General

Ms. Wright called the meeting to order at 10:04 a.m. on Friday, February 17, 2012. A quorum to conduct disciplinary matters was determined to exist.

### **APPROVAL OF BOARD MINUTES**

Ms. Walters moved to approve the December 2, 2011 board minutes as corrected. Ms. Fischer seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

### **RULES HEARING – 157-2-.01, “DEFINITIONS. AMENDED.”**

Ms. Fischer voted to adopt rule 157-2-.01. Ms. Love seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

#### **157-2-.01 Definitions. Amended.**

(1) For purposes of O.C.G.A. 43-11A-9(1) a major course of study shall mean:

(a) A program granted accreditation or approval by the Commission on Accreditation for Dietetic Education (CADE) of the American Dietetic Association (ADA); or

(b) Upper division courses in human nutrition, food and nutrition, dietetics, food systems management, nutrition education or a combination thereof determined by the Board to be greater than or substantially equal to a Commission on Accreditation for Dietetic Education (CADE) accredited or approved program. The earned degree does not need to be in these areas.

(2) For purposes of O.C.G.A. 43-11A-9, “Supervised Experience” component of dietetic practice shall consist of 900 hours of supervised practice/experience under the supervision of a state licensed practitioner or a registered dietitian. The acceptable routes of obtaining this experience include:

(a) A program formerly or currently approved or accredited by the Commission on Accreditation for Dietetic Education (CADE) of the American Dietetic Association (ADA):

1. Dietetic Internship (DI);
2. Coordinated Program (CP);
3. Approved Preprofessional Practice Program (AP4).

(b) A program formerly approved by the Commission on Accreditation for Dietetic Education (CADE) of the American Dietetic Association (ADA):

1. Six (6) months/900 hours experience;
2. Three (3) years preplanned with B.S. degree.

**Authority O.C.G.A. §§ 43-11A-7 and 43-11A-9.**

Ms. Walters moved that the formulation and adoption of these rules does not impose excessive regulatory cost on any licensee and any cost to comply with the proposed rules cannot be reduced by a less expensive alternative that fully accomplishes the objectives of the applicable laws as required by O.C.G.A. § 50-13-4. Ms. Fischer seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**RULES HEARING – 157-4-.03, “LICENSURE BY ENDORSEMENT.”**

Ms. Cook voted to adopt rule 157-4-.03. Ms. Walters seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**157-4-.03 Licensure by Endorsement.**

Any applicant holding a valid license as a licensed dietitian issued by another state, political territory, or jurisdiction acceptable to the Board, if, in the Board’s opinion, the requirements are substantially equal to or greater than the requirements of this chapter, 43-11A-8, shall submit:

- (a) The completed application form provided by the Board.
- (b) A photograph of the applicant. Only a passport type (3" × 3") taken within the past twelve months will be accepted.
- (c) The proper fee (see fee schedule).
- (d) A letter under seal from the appropriate state official issuing the license indicating that the license is current and in good standing.
- (e) The Board may request additional verification of any requirements or credentials as it may deem necessary.
- (f) Proof of receipt of a minimum of a baccalaureate or higher degree from a college or university accredited by the Southern Association of Schools and Colleges or any other regional accreditation agency with a major course of study in dietetics, human nutrition, food and nutrition, nutrition education, or food systems management; and
- (g) Proof of satisfactory completion of a documented, supervised experience component in dietetic practice of not less than 900 hours supervised by a licensed dietitian or registered dietitian.

**Authority O.C.G.A. §§ 43-11A-7 and 43-11A-8.**

Ms. Fischer moved that the formulation and adoption of these rules does not impose excessive regulatory cost on any licensee and any cost to comply with the proposed rules cannot be reduced by a less expensive alternative that fully accomplishes the objectives of the applicable laws as required by O.C.G.A. § 50-13-4. Ms. Love seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**RENEWAL – CONTINUING EDUCATION REPORT – JOAN FISCHER**

Ms. Fischer presented a report regarding continuing education for renewal of licensure. A discussion was held with Board on the information presented.

## **SENATE BILL 445 – PROFESSIONAL LICENSURE REGULATION**

The Board held a discussion regarding the meeting held with Secretary of State Brian Kemp concerning proposed legislation to modify professional licensure in Georgia

### **APPLICATIONS APPROVED BY STAFF GUIDELINES**

Ms. Walters moved to ratify licenses administratively issued from December 1, 2011 to January 31, 2012. Ms. Neely seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

### **NEW POLICY**

Ms. Neely moved to accept all consent agreements for unlicensed practice prepared by the Legal Services of the Professional Licensing Boards which have been drafted using the Board's motion with no changes or variations. The Executive Director will sign these orders/agreements with express permission of the Board President and presented to the Division Director for docketing upon receipt. Ms. Walters seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Ms. Neely moved, Ms. Fischer seconded and the Board voted to enter into Executive Session in accordance with O.C.G.A. §§43-1-2(k); 43-1-19(h) and 43-26-5 (c), to deliberate on applications and enforcement matters and to receive information on applications, investigative cases and pending cases. The motion passed unanimously.

At the conclusion of Executive Session on Friday, February 17, 2012, Ms. Wright declared the meeting to be "open" pursuant to the Open and Public Meeting Act O.C.G.A. § 50-14-1 et seq.

### **ATTORNEY GENERAL'S OFFICE**

(DIET=Dietitian Investigative Case Number)

**Applicant P.L., #1308284** - Requests Board staff to send a letter to applicant explaining that his application will expire on June 29, 2012.

### **APPLICATIONS**

(DIET=Dietitian Investigative Case Number)

**Applicant P.R., #1748484** – Ms. Neely moved to proceed with licensure by examination. Ms. Fischer seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**Applicant K.U., #1744964** – Ms. Neely moved to proceed with licensure by restoration. Ms. Fischer seconded the motion and it carried with unanimously.

### **COMPLAINT COMPLIANCE REPORT**

(DIET=Dietitian Investigative Case Number)

**DIET120009** – Ms. Neely moved to refer to Investigations for further investigations to suggest the investigator poses as having celiac or IBS, request counseling for those issues, retrieve copy of brochure and educational materials provided by the respondent. Also suggest investigator to present as having GI discomfort to see if the respondent attempts to assess the investigator symptoms. Ms. Fischer seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**DIET120012** – Ms. Neely moved to refer to Georgia Composite State Board of Medical Examiners. Ms. Fischer seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**DIET110011** – Ms. Neely moved to close the case. Ms. Fischer seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**GEORGIA BOARD OF EXAMINERS OF LICENSED DIETITIANS POSITION STATEMENT REGARDING SENATE BILL 445**

Ms. Neely moved to approve the following statement:

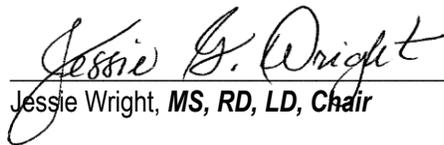
*The purpose of the Georgia Board of Examiners of Licensed Dietitians is to protect the health, safety, and welfare of the public by providing for the licensure and regulation of the activities of persons engaged in dietetic practice.*

*This Board is dedicated to the continued process improvement of dietitian licensure, investigations, and discipline. We have and will continue to collaborate with the Secretary of State Professional Licensing Boards Division to streamline our processes to better serve the public and our licensees.*

*We do not believe the best interest of the public would be served by removing this authority from the Georgia Board of Examiners of Licensed Dietitians.*

Ms. Fischer seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

The meeting adjourned 1:21 a.m.

  
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Jessie Wright, **MS, RD, LD, Chair**

  
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James D. Cleghorn, **Executive Director**