

Vote “YES” on Senate Bill 1088



PROPOSED CHANGES TO IDAHO'S PSYCHOLOGY PRACTICE ACT

1. ELIMINATING UNNECESSARY BARRIERS FOR BECOMING A PRESCRIBING PSYCHOLOGIST

- **From Supervision to Collaborative:** Highly-trained Provisional Prescribing Psychologists (*see back page for detail*) would prescribe their first two years with the resource and knowledgeable influence of an experienced licensed prescriber (e.g., a physician, advanced practice registered nurse, pharmacist, or prescribing psychologist) under a collaborative rather than supervision agreement. This reduces the onus on the licensed prescriber, which has been a barrier to finding licensed prescribers willing to participate.
- **Defining Specialization:** More clearly describes when a Prescribing Psychologist needs extra training to routinely treat pediatric or geriatric patients without consulting an expert in those special populations.
- **Sunsetting the Advisory Panel:** An advisory panel established to help the Board of Psychologist Examiners (BOPE) has served its original purpose and has not met since 2022. The board can consult with experts whenever deemed necessary moving forward.
- Adding that one member of the Board of Psychologist Examiners must have a master's degree in clinical psychopharmacology
- Plus, eliminating obsolete and unnecessary language



2. ADDING BACKGROUND CHECKS FOR INITIAL LICENSURE

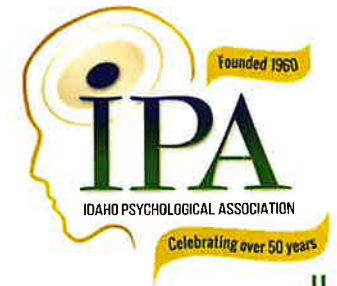
- Psychologists work with vulnerable populations (e.g., children & elderly) and are one of few health professions not already required to have a background check upon initial licensure
- Required to comply with PSYPACT (*an interstate compact – see back page for detail*), which is now in 42 states
- PSYPACT allows Idaho psychologists, many of whom have small businesses, to practice into other states

3. FIXING THE DEFINITION OF SERVICE EXTENDER

- Fixing an oversight in definition of psychology's Service Extenders so doctoral students attending a program that doesn't award a master's degree can still work as Service Extenders



What Is A Psychologist



HOW PSYCHOLOGISTS HELP IDAHOANS

Psychologists are licensed mental health providers with advanced training and doctorate degrees.

- Use proven treatments and methods that follow national guidelines.
- Help with emotional, mental, and relationship problems for individuals, couples, families, and groups.
- Focus on treating trauma, anxiety, behavior issues, stress, and life challenges.
- Offer support for the special needs of communities and organizations.

SERVICES PROVIDED

- **Assessment and Diagnosis:** Psychologists use tests to identify conditions and assess thinking, personality, and brain function.
- **Therapy:** Psychologists provide psychotherapy, sometimes combined with medication for better results.
- **Special Services:** Includes helping schools, businesses, or courts with evaluations and advice.

STEPS TO BECOMING A PSYCHOLOGIST

Earn a
Bachelor's Degree

Complete Master's
Level Training

Complete Clinical Psychology
Doctorate AND 1,000 Hours of
Supervised Clinical Training
(minimum of 5 years)

1,000 Hours of
Post-Doctorate Supervised
Clinical Training

Pass Rigorous
National Exam
(EPPP)

Licensed
Psychologist

For more information, contact:

Lance Giles at (208) 972-0972
IPA Office at (208) 454-5594



Prescribing Psychologists in Idaho: Did You Know?

In 2017, Idaho's legislature passed a law that allows specially trained psychologists to prescribe mental health medications.

A prescribing psychologist in Idaho must:

- Have already earned a doctorate and been licensed as a psychologist.
- Complete a highly specialized, post-doctorate, master's degree in psychopharmacology.
- Pass a national exam – Psychopharmacology Examination for Psychologists (PEP).
- Complete 2,000 hours of additional clinical practice before practicing independently.

Prescribing psychologists have 9-11 years of specialized graduate mental health training.

February 17, 2025

Julie VanOrden, Chair
Senate Health & Welfare Committee
State of Idaho
P.O. Box 83720
Boise, ID 83720-0081

Dear Chair VanOrden & Committee Members:

This letter is in strong support of proposed changes to psychology's license act. **Please vote "YES" with a "DO PASS" recommendation on Senate Bill 1088.**

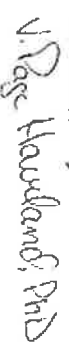
When serving as a Psychologist in the US Navy, I became aware of the high-quality work of Prescribing Psychologists and the rigorous training involved to add that extra service to the treatment already being provided to patients by Psychologists. The timing was not right for me to pursue prescribing then. Years later, after moving to Idaho and working as a licensed Psychologist here, I had the opportunity to earn the Master of Science in Clinical Psychopharmacology (MSCP) degree at Idaho State University. I have since passed the national exam, finished the required two years of supervision as a "Provisional" Prescribing Psychologist and am now one of only eight fully credentialed Prescribing Psychologist in Idaho. I mention the steps involved in this process, as I have walked those steps recently and, given that experience, I hope to share useful information with you.

I support all aspects of the proposed changes to the psychology license act that are included in Senate Bill 1088, especially those related to Prescribing Psychologists. In particular, **I support the change from a Supervision Agreement to a Collaborative Agreement and the addition of other qualified prescribers to be allowed to participate.** Finding a physician willing to supervise my prescribing work for two years was a difficult obstacle in completing my training and other Psychologists are encountering the same issue. The medical community trains differently (i.e., through residencies within organizations like hospitals), so the idea seemed daunting for a busy physician in private practice to take on "supervising" someone from another field, even though I was already a licensed professional in good standing with years of experience successfully diagnosing and treating patients for mental health conditions.

Changing the requirement to a Collaborative Agreement and allowing other types of prescribers to participate should make it easier for a Provisional Prescribing Psychologist to find an experienced prescriber with whom they can regularly review the medication-related part of their patient cases. I believe physicians and other prescribers will be more comfortable "collaborating" with a Provisional Prescribing Psychologist on patient care if they don't feel overburdened with the responsibilities of "supervising." Also, this should improve patient care, as in some supervision situations, the supervisor may not allow any prescriptions to be written until they review and sign-off on everything. Unless the situation is quite complex, this pause in care can be unnecessary and may cause a frustrating delay for the patient.

Please accept this letter in lieu of in-person testimony in support of Senate Bill 1088. I am on an overseas trip, which was planned many months ago, so I was not able to reschedule it to be there in person.

Sincerely,



V. Page Haviland, PhD, MSCP
Saint Alphonsus Comprehensive Pain & Spine
1055 N. Curtis Road, South Tower, 6th Floor
Boise, ID 83706

SECTIONS OF LAW THAT ARE LISTED AS REPEALED IN SENATE BILL 1088

54-2313. UNAUTHORIZED PRACTICE OF MEDICINE. Nothing herein shall be construed as authorizing any person licensed as a psychologist to engage in any manner in the practice of medicine as defined in the laws of this state. A psychologist who engages in psychotherapy shall make provision for the diagnosis and treatment of medical conditions in collaboration with a physician licensed pursuant to [title 54](#), chapter 18, Idaho Code. A psychologist shall not diagnose, prescribe for or treat a client with reference to a medical condition.

History: [54-2313, added 1963, ch. 186, sec. 13, p. 549; am. 1987, ch. 147, sec. 4, p. 294.]

54-2320. ADVISORY PANEL. The board shall establish an advisory panel to review and advise the board on proposed prescriptive rules and other regulations governing the prescriptive authority for psychologists, including any formulary or limited formulary, and also including the sufficiency of education and training for an applicant seeking certification by endorsement. If requested by the board, the panel may be consulted on complaints against psychologists with prescriptive authority. The panel shall consist of a psychiatrist and a pediatric psychiatrist or a pediatrician recommended by the Idaho state board of medicine, a pharmacist holding a doctoral-level degree recommended by the Idaho state board of pharmacy, and two (2) psychologists licensed in Idaho. The board shall not promulgate rules governing prescriptive authority, governing collaboration or supervision of prescribing psychologists, establishing a formulary or establishing standards for granting certification by endorsement, unless the rules first have been approved by a majority vote of the advisory panel.

History: [54-2320, added 2017, ch. 238, sec. 7, p. 590.]

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LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF IDAHO

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First Regular Session - 2025

Sixty-eighth Legislature

IN THE _____

BILL NO. 5.1088

BY _____

AN ACT

1 RELATING TO PSYCHOLOGISTS; AMENDING SECTION 54-2302, IDAHO CODE, TO DE-
 2 FINE A TERM; AMENDING SECTION 54-2304, IDAHO CODE, TO PROVIDE A RE-
 3 QUIREMENT FOR THE BOARD OF PSYCHOLOGIST EXAMINERS; AMENDING SECTION
 4 54-2305, IDAHO CODE, TO PROVIDE FOR COLLABORATION; AMENDING SECTION
 5 54-2307, IDAHO CODE, TO PROVIDE FOR A FINGERPRINT-BASED CRIMINAL HIS-
 6 TORY BACKGROUND CHECK AND TO MAKE TECHNICAL CORRECTIONS; AMENDING
 7 SECTION 54-2312, IDAHO CODE, TO PROVIDE FOR A FINGERPRINT-BASED CRIM-
 8 INAL HISTORY BACKGROUND CHECK; AMENDING SECTION 54-2312A, IDAHO CODE,
 9 TO PROVIDE FOR A FINGERPRINT-BASED CRIMINAL HISTORY BACKGROUND CHECK;
 10 REPEALING SECTION 54-2313, IDAHO CODE, RELATING TO THE UNAUTHORIZED
 11 PRACTICE OF MEDICINE; AMENDING SECTION 54-2316, IDAHO CODE, TO RE-
 12 VISE PROVISIONS REGARDING PRESCRIPTIVE AUTHORITY; AMENDING SECTION
 13 54-2317, IDAHO CODE, TO REVISE PROVISIONS REGARDING PRESCRIPTIVE AU-
 14 THORITY PROVISIONAL CERTIFICATION; AMENDING SECTION 54-2318, IDAHO
 15 CODE, TO REVISE PROVISIONS REGARDING CERTIFICATION FOR PRESCRIPTIVE
 16 AUTHORITY; REPEALING SECTION 54-2320, IDAHO CODE, RELATING TO AN AD-
 17 VISORY PANEL TO REVIEW AND ADVISE THE BOARD ON PROPOSED PRESCRIPTIVE
 18 RULES; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.
 19

20 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Idaho:

21 SECTION 1. That Section 54-2302, Idaho Code, be, and the same is hereby
 22 amended to read as follows:

23 54-2302. DEFINITIONS. ~~Within the meaning~~ For the purposes of this
 24 chapter, the following definitions apply:

25 (1) "Department" means the department of self-governing agencies of
 26 the state of Idaho.

27 (2) "Board" means the Idaho state board of psychologist examiners.

28 (3) "Collaborative agreement" means a written agreement between a li-
 29 censed psychologist who is applying for provisional prescriptive authority
 30 or gaining prescriptive authority experience with pediatric or geriatric
 31 patients and a collaborative prescriber that outlines the nature of the
 32 collaborative relationship, including but not limited to frequency of col-
 33 laborative consultation and procedures for emergency situations.

34 (4) "Collaborative prescriber" means a physician, advanced practice
 35 registered nurse, pharmacist, or prescribing psychologist with a minimum of
 36 two (2) years of experience in the management of psychotropic medication who
 37 is licensed pursuant to this title or an equivalent licensing provision of
 38 the law of another state in good standing.

39 (3) (5) "Division administrator" means the chief administrative offi-
 40 cer of the division of occupational and professional licenses.

41 (4) (6) "Licensed medical provider" means a physician or physician as-
 42 sistant licensed pursuant to chapter 18, title 54, Idaho Code, or an advanced

Lines 28-33: Creates a new definition for Collaborative Agreement
 Lines 34-38: Creates a new definition for Collaborative Prescriber

1 psychological association and from any individual residing in this state.
2 Any vacancy occurring on the board shall be filled by the governor by ap-
3 pointment for the unexpired term. Board members shall serve at the pleasure
4 of the governor.

5 (4) At all times, the board shall have at least one (1) member who is en-
6 gaged primarily in rendering services in psychology and at least one (1) mem-
7 ber who is engaged primarily in teaching, training, or research in psychol-
8 ogy.

9 (5) At all times, the board shall have at least one (1) member who has
10 completed a master's of science in clinical psychopharmacology degree.

11 ~~(5)~~ (6) No board member shall serve more than two (2) consecutive terms.

12 ~~(6)~~ (7) Each board member shall be compensated as provided by section
13 59-509(n), Idaho Code.

14 ~~(7)~~ (8) The board shall annually in the month of July, hold a meeting,
15 and elect a chairman and vice chairman. The board shall meet at such other
16 times as deemed necessary and advisable by the chairman, or by a majority of
17 its members, or by the governor. Reasonable notice of all meetings shall be
18 given as required by law. A majority of the board shall constitute a quorum
19 at any meeting or hearing.

20 SECTION 3. That Section 54-2305, Idaho Code, be, and the same is hereby
21 amended to read as follows:

22 54-2305. BOARD OF PSYCHOLOGIST EXAMINERS -- POWERS. The board of psy-
23 chologist examiners shall have the following powers:

24 (1) To pass upon the qualifications and fitness of applicants for li-
25 censes, reciprocal licenses, certifications and provisional certification
26 of prescriptive authority; and, at its option, to adopt and revise rules re-
27 quiring applicants to pass examinations relating to their qualifications as
28 a prerequisite to the issuance of licenses.

29 (2) To adopt and, from time to time, revise such rules in accordance
30 with the provisions of chapter 52, title 67, Idaho Code, and not inconsis-
31 tent with the law as may be necessary to carry into effect the provisions of
32 this chapter. Such rules shall include, but need not be limited to, a code
33 of ethics for psychologists in the state consistent with the current, and as
34 future amended, ethical standards for psychologists of the American psycho-
35 logical association and the educational and professional qualifications of
36 applicants for licensing under this chapter.

37 (3) To examine for, deny, approve, issue, revoke, suspend and renew the
38 licenses, permits, and certifications of psychologists, service extenders,
39 and psychologist applicants pursuant to this chapter, and to conduct hear-
40 ings in connection therewith.

41 (4) To conduct hearings upon complaints concerning violations of the
42 provisions of, and the rules adopted pursuant to, this chapter and cause the
43 prosecution and enjoinder of all such violations.

44 (5) The board, or its duly appointed hearing officer, shall have the
45 power in any disciplinary proceeding under this chapter to administer oaths,
46 take depositions of witnesses within or without the state in the manner pro-
47 vided by law in civil cases, and may apply to any district court of this state
48 for a subpoena to require the attendance of such witnesses and the produc-
49 tion of such books, records, and papers as it deems necessary. The fees and

Lines 9-10: Requires that at least one Board Member have a master's degree in clinical psychopharmacology. If the Board is going to regulate and possibly discipline a Prescribing Psychologist, they should have the education and knowledge to do so.

1 (b) Graduation from an accredited college or university with a doctoral
2 degree in a field related to psychology, provided experience and train-
3 ing are acceptable to the board; ~~and~~

4 (3) Successful passage of an examination, if such examination is re-
5 quired by the rules duly adopted by the board; ~~and~~

6 (4) That the applicant has submitted to a fingerprint-based criminal
7 history background check in accordance with section 67-9411A, Idaho Code;
8 and

9 ~~(4)~~ (5) Receipt of a completed application accompanied by an applica-
10 tion fee as established by board rules not to exceed three hundred dollars
11 (\$300), and when an examination is required a processing fee of twenty-five
12 dollars (\$25.00) payable to the division of occupational and professional
13 licenses. The fee for any required examination or reexamination shall be
14 submitted directly to the national examining entity. The application fee
15 and the processing fee are not refundable.

16 SECTION 5. That Section 54-2312, Idaho Code, be, and the same is hereby
17 amended to read as follows:

18 54-2312. QUALIFICATIONS FOR LICENSE -- ENDORSEMENT. The board may
19 recommend the granting of a license to any person who is licensed or certi-
20 fied by a regulatory board of psychologists in the United States or Canada
21 where such certification or licensure was based on a doctoral degree and who:

22 (1) Submits a complete application, including the application fee and
23 a license fee not to exceed three hundred dollars (\$300) as established by
24 board rule;

25 (2) Has not been convicted, found guilty, or received a withheld judg-
26 ment or suspended sentence in this state or in any other state of a crime
27 deemed relevant in accordance with section 67-9411(1), Idaho Code;

28 (3) Has submitted to a fingerprint-based criminal history background
29 check in accordance with section 67-9411A, Idaho Code;

30 ~~(3)~~ (4) Has not had a certification or license revoked, suspended or
31 otherwise sanctioned; and

32 ~~(4)~~ (5) Has certified under oath that they have reviewed and will abide
33 by the laws and rules governing the practice of psychology in Idaho and the
34 code of ethics of the American psychological association and either:

35 (a) Holds a current certificate of professional qualification in psy-
36 chology or holds a certificate of professional standing issued by a na-
37 tional credentialing entity approved by the board by rule; or

38 (b) Meets the requirements of section 54-2307(2), Idaho Code, and board
39 rules relating to endorsement and educational and credentialing re-
40 quirements for licensure.

41 SECTION 6. That Section 54-2312A, Idaho Code, be, and the same is hereby
42 amended to read as follows:

43 54-2312A. SENIOR PSYCHOLOGIST. The board may grant a license to any
44 person who submits a completed application, including the application fee
45 and a license fee not to exceed three hundred dollars (\$300) as established
46 by board rule, and who:

Lines 6-7: Adds a background check for the initial licensure of Psychologists who apply via an exam.

Lines 28-29: Adds a background check for the initial licensure of Psychologists who apply via
endorsement from another jurisdiction.

1 (6) No psychologist may prescribe for a pediatric or geriatric patient
2 without meeting all requirements of this chapter, including the provisions
3 of section ~~57-2318(2)~~ 54-2318(2), Idaho Code.

4 ~~(7) No person licensed under this chapter shall accept any payment, di-~~
5 ~~rectly or indirectly.~~

6 ~~(a) From any person licensed as a health care provider under title 54,~~
7 ~~Idaho Code, whose license does not permit the writing of prescriptions,~~
8 ~~for writing a prescription or dispensing a prescription drug to a pa-~~
9 ~~tient.~~

10 ~~(b) From any person who holds himself or herself out as a health care~~
11 ~~provider in any form who is not licensed under title 54, Idaho Code, or~~

12 ~~(c) From any business or professional entity regardless of the form of~~
13 ~~its organization, for writing a prescription or dispensing a prescrip-~~
14 ~~tion drug to a patient unless such entity is authorized to conduct busi-~~
15 ~~ness under chapter 17, title 54, Idaho Code, or licensed as a licensed~~
16 ~~health care provider or health care facility or is otherwise approved by~~
17 ~~the board.~~

18 ~~(8) The restriction contained in subsection (7) of this section shall~~
19 ~~not prevent a person licensed under this chapter from accepting payment from~~
20 ~~any such person who is a patient, or for services provided to a patient or to~~
21 ~~someone the patient is legally obligated to support or from any insurer or~~
22 ~~other entity authorized under the laws of this state to provide insurance or~~
23 ~~pay benefits on behalf of a self-insured plan or government program.~~

24 SECTION 9. That section 54-2317, Idaho Code, be, and the same is hereby
25 amended to read as follows:

26 54-2317. PRESCRIPTIVE AUTHORITY -- PROVISIONAL CERTIFICATION. To
27 qualify for provisional certification of prescriptive authority, a psychol-
28 ogist licensed under this chapter shall meet such standards as prescribed by
29 rule of the board. At a minimum, these standards shall include:

30 (1) A current license to practice psychology in Idaho;

31 (2) A doctorate degree in psychology awarded by an accredited program
32 within a United States department of education approved, regionally ac-
33 credited institution of higher education an institution of higher education
34 that is accredited by a regional accrediting organization recognized by the
35 United States department of education;

36 (3) A master's degree in clinical psychopharmacology awarded by an
37 accredited program within a United States department of education approved,
38 regionally accredited institution of higher education American psycho-
39 logical association-designated program or a program that satisfies the
40 requirements to become an American psychological association-designated
41 program within an institution of higher education that is accredited by a
42 regional accrediting organization recognized by the United States depart-
43 ment of education. The didactic portion of the education shall be at least
44 two (2) years of full-time education, or the equivalent thereof, and shall be
45 substantially equivalent to the education required of an advanced practice
46 psychiatric nurse practitioner in this state as determined by the insti-
47 tution that offers both clinical psychopharmacology and psychiatric nurse
48 practitioner degrees. The necessary prerequisites for the education shall
49 be determined by the institution that offers the degrees and, in the insti-

Lines 4-23: Deletes subsections (7) and (8). This language is confusing and seems to restrict free trade.

Lines 32-35: Rewrites the section to conform with modern day accrediting language.

Lines 37-48: Rewrites the section to conform with modern day accrediting language.

1 ~~(h) Professional, ethical, and legal issues.~~
 2 ~~(i) Application of existing law, standards and guidelines to~~
 3 ~~pharmaceutical practice; and~~
 4 ~~(ii) Relationship with pharmaceutical industry.~~
 5 ~~1. Conflicts of interest;~~
 6 ~~2. Evaluation of pharmaceutical marketing practices; and~~
 7 ~~3. Critical consumer.~~
 8 (4) Clinical experience that is sufficient to attain competency in
 9 the psychopharmacological treatment of a diverse patient population under
 10 the direction of qualified practitioners including, ~~but not limited to,~~
 11 ~~licensed physicians and prescribing psychologists as determined by the in-~~
 12 ~~stitution offering the clinical psychopharmacology degree;~~
 13 (5) A passing score on an examination developed by a nationally recog-
 14 nized body and approved by the board; and
 15 (6) ~~Supervision agreements with board-certified psychiatrists, neu-~~
 16 ~~rologists, family medicine physicians, or other physicians with a minimum~~
 17 ~~of two (2) years of experience in the management of psychotropic medication~~
 18 ~~who are licensed under chapter 18, title 54, Idaho Code, or an equivalent li-~~
 19 ~~censing provision of the law of an adjoining state. A written collaborative~~
 20 ~~agreement entered into with at least one (1) collaborative prescriber and~~
 21 ~~provided to the board upon request.~~

22 SECTION 10. That Section 54-2318, Idaho Code, be, and the same is hereby
 23 amended to read as follows:

24 54-2318. PRESCRIPTIVE AUTHORITY -- CERTIFICATION. (1) An applicant
 25 for certification of prescriptive authority may be granted such certifi-
 26 cation by the board if the applicant possesses provisional certification
 27 of prescriptive authority and has successfully completed two (2) years of
 28 satisfactory prescribing as attested to by ~~the supervising physician or~~
 29 ~~physicians~~ a collaborative prescriber participating in a collaborative
 30 agreement.
 31 (2) An applicant for certification of prescriptive authority who seeks
 32 to ~~prescribe~~ specialize in prescribing for pediatric or geriatric patients
 33 shall have completed at least one (1) year of satisfactory prescribing,
 34 which may be part of a two (2) year collaborative agreement, to such patient
 35 populations as attested to by a ~~supervising physician or supervising physi-~~
 36 ~~icians with collaborative prescriber who participates in a collaborative~~
 37 agreement and who has specialized training and experience in treating such
 38 patient populations. For the purposes of this section, "specialization"
 39 means to see twenty-five (25) or more pediatric or geriatric patients in a
 40 single calendar year.
 41 (3) The board shall develop rules to effect the purposes of sections
 42 54-2316 through 54-2319, Idaho Code. Such rules shall include educational
 43 and training standards necessary to qualify for certification of prescrip-
 44 tive authority, application and testing procedures, and fees for an applica-
 45 tion, provisional certification, certification, and renewal of certifica-
 46 tion. Such fees shall not exceed six hundred dollars (\$600) each.

47 SECTION 11. That Section 54-2320, Idaho Code, be, and the same is hereby

48 ~~repealed.~~

Lines 1-7: Continuation of the clinical psychopharmacology program description.

Lines 10-11: Deletes unnecessary language for clinical experience.

Lines 15-21: Deletes obsolete language and inserts new language for collaboration.

Lines 29-30: Deletes obsolete supervision language and inserts new collaboration language

Lines 32-40: Clarifies what specialization in pediatrics and geriatrics means.

Lines 47-48: Repeals the Advisory Panel for Prescriptive

authority because it has served its purpose and is no longer necessary. It has only met once in the last two years. If an issue arises in the future where need additional expertise, they can always ask an expert or have the DOPL

Administrator create a temporary Advisory Panel