

HEALTH, WELFARE AND STATE INSTITUTIONS

Minutes of Meeting - February 4, 1975

The third meeting of the Health, Welfare and State Institutions Committee was held on February 4, 1975 at 3:00 p.m., Room 323.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT: Chairman Lee E. Walker
Senator Neal
Senator Gojack
Senator Hilbrecht
Senator Schofield
Senator Young

MEMBERS ABSENT: Senator Herr

See Exhibit A for list of others present.

S.B. 8 -- Requires that public buildings and facilities have toilet facilities accessible to physically handicapped.

Mr. Hancock advised the members that in 1963 we adopted the present requirements for State buildings; i.e. all State buildings must have entrance ramps, toilet facilities, drinking fountains, telephones, etc. However, most buildings prior to 1965 would not be equipped with toilet facilities for the handicapped. Mr. Hancock questioned the amendment, in that he is not sure if the intent of this bill would apply to all buildings after July 1, or if existing buildings would have to be remodeled to comply. Mr. Hancock also stated that there may be a problem with the terminology "public building" and gave the example that a guard tower is a public building. The terminology "at least one toilet facility" may also be a problem in that most buildings have a facility for men and one for women -- should each one have a handicapped facility? Also if there is only one facility, they might wonder which sex this would accommodate. The uniform building code has handicapped standards in it, and the A.S.A. standards state that all new buildings that the State Public Works handles will have one toilet stall to meet these requirements.

See Exhibit B for estimated cost of remodeling which has been submitted by Mr. Hancock.

Mr. Bill Adams advised the committee that to remodel an existing compartment, the cost would be approximately \$350; to build a new compartment (with plumbing) would cost \$3,500; to build a new compartment (without plumbing) would cost \$2,000.

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Mr. Bob Warren, Nevada League of Cities, advised the committee that the city managers support upgrading of buildings yet to be built. Furthermore, if all existing buildings were upgraded, the cost in Sparks would be \$300 for a single compartment; this would amount to a total cost of \$16,000 for the City of Sparks for a communal toilet facility and \$32,000 for a male and a female facility. In Boulder City it would be necessary to build new single rest rooms for a total of \$20,000 -- \$15,000 for the library, \$2,000 for the recreation center, and \$2,500 for the teen center.

Senator Walker advised that we will hold this bill until further information is received from Mr. Hancock

S.B. 25 -- Allows veterans with certain background in medical corps to qualify for practical nurses examination and license.

Senator Raggio advised the members that this bill was introduced by request of the Nevada State Hospital Association, and although he is not prepared to tell the committee what their feelings were about this bill, the Association does feel that it will solve problems in the hospitals.

Phyllis Hansen spoke in opposition of the bill (see Exhibit C for copy of testimony). Senator Hilbrecht asked if there was a provision that states that any qualified corpsman could be excused from a section of the training requirements. Mrs. Hansen stated that the corpsmen can challenge courses.

Jean T. Peavy spoke in opposition of the bill (see Exhibit D for copy of testimony). Mrs. Peavy further stated that they require a minimum of 1600 hours of training, The training for medical specialist and medical service technician programs are 10-12 weeks in length, while their's are 48 weeks in length.

Senator Young asked how many practical nurses are practicing at the present time; Mrs. Peavy's response was 750 who are practicing and 200 who are not practicing.

Ethelda Thelen spoke in opposition of the bill (see Exhibit E for copy of testimony). Mrs. Thelen further stated that it takes certain educational program to work at certain levels.

Ellen Pope spoke in opposition of the bill (see Exhibit F for copy of testimony). Mrs. Pope further stated that this bill, as it is written now, has no restrictions.

Testimony on S.B. 25 will continue on February 14, 1975.


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Being no further business at this time, the meeting was
adjourned at 4:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted


Sharon W. Maher, Secretary

APPROVED:


Lee E. Walker
Chairman

A schedule of forthcoming committee meetings is shown below:

Friday, February 7

S.B. 57, 58, 59

Tuesday, February 11

S.B. 68, 69, 91, 92

Friday, February 14

S.B. 25, 56, 95, 138

NAME	ORGANIZATION	ADDRESS
Wm. C. KELLY	BUREAU OF VOC REHAB.	CARSON CITY
Orrille A. Wahnew brock	Dept. of H.R.	Carson City
Eileen Pope	Nevada LPN Assn.	Fallon Nev.
E. Kuhlke S. Helen	Nevada Nurses Association	Reno, Nev.
Jaw F. Peavy	Nevada State Board of Nursing	Reno
Arlene Avery LPN	Board of Directors Div #8	Carson City
Charlotte Keener LPN	Nevada LPN ass. President Div #8	Carson City
Barbara Hart	Nevada Hospital Assn.	RENO
Bob WARREN	New League of Cities	Carson
Wm. E. Adams	City of Las Vegas	City Hall, Las Vegas, Nev.
JACK MITCHELL	CITY OF NORTH LAS VEGAS	CITY HALL, North Las Vegas
Mark Anderson	Intern	Carson city
Karen S. Kinkler	Nevada Nurses Assn.	Reno
Phyllis Hansen	NNA	Reno
Leslie Adcock	Reg. Intern	Reno
DENNIS BAUGHMAN	LAS VEGAS REVIEW-JOURNAL	

I BURN THE RUBBER OFF MY WHEELS: I CAN HARDLY WAIT;
MY WHEELCHAIR'S 30 INCHES WIDE, THE JOHN IS 28.
SOME PLEAD FOR CIVIL JUSTICE WHEN THEY ARE SET UPON.
I ASK FOR JUST ONE FREEDOM, THE RIGHT TO USE THE JOHN.
I'VE THOUGHT ABOUT REFORMING AND CHANGING MY EVIL WAYS;
TO BE A MODEL OF DEPORTMENT FOR THE REMAINDER OF MY DAYS.
BUT WHEN I GET TO HEAVEN AND FACE THE PEARLY GATES,
ST. PETER WILL SAY, "YOU'RE 30 INCHES WIDE.
OUR GATES ARE 28!"



STATE OF NEVADA
PUBLIC WORKS BOARD

WILLIAM E. HANCOCK, A.I.A.
SECRETARY AND
MANAGER

Legislative Building, Room 306

CARSON CITY, NEVADA 89701
(702) ~~882-7445~~ 885-4870

Senator Lee E. Walker, Chairman
Senate Health, Welfare & State Institutions Committee
Nevada State Legislature
Legislative Building
Carson City, Nevada

February 5, 1975

IN REPLY REFER TO SUBJECT

RE

1975 Legislation
Senate Bill No. 8

Dear Senator:

In accordance with your February 4th request for an estimate of the cost of remodeling all existing State-owned buildings to provide toilet rooms complying to ASA standards for the handicapped, I submit the following:

1. To remodel two toilet rooms in each building (one male and one female) to ASA standards: \$4,000/building.
2. In 1964, we identified 713 State-owned buildings. If it is assumed that 80% of these buildings could be considered to be usable by the physically handicapped either as a place of employment or to serve the handicapped public, 570 buildings would have to be remodeled.
3. Total estimated cost: \$4,000 x 570 = \$2,280,000.

At best, the above is only a "guess". However, I anticipate the unit costs would be high because the work is remodeling, many of the buildings are old and many are in remote locations. Undoubtedly, some of the existing buildings would have to have exterior ramps installed to permit the handicapped access into the building.

While the intent of S.B. 8 is commendable, I feel that it should permit some judgment to be exercised as to whether such facilities are necessary in every building. Perhaps the Department of Human Resources could be required to promulgate state-wide standards on the type of buildings or functions that should be designed for use by the handicapped.

Very truly yours,

William E. Hancock, AIA
Manager

WEH:km



Nevada Nurses' Association

1450 East 2nd Street Reno, Nevada 89502 (702) 329-5551

February 3, 1975

TESTIMONY AGAINST SENATE BILL NO. 25

To allow persons with certain military experience to qualify for the licensed practical nurse examination.

My name is Phyllis Hansen, legislative representative of the Nevada Nurses Association. I am here today to testify against the passage of SB-25. The Nevada Nurses Association is concerned with the maintenance of quality patient care for all people in Nevada and, therefore, supports the Licensed Practical Nursing Association and the State Board of Nursing in opposing this change in the law.

Practical Nursing instruction in Nevada is a one year course which includes didactic study in such subjects as anatomy and physiology, nutrition, and pharmacology plus over 850 hours of supervised clinical experience. Provisions are available in schools of practical nursing for qualified people to challenge portions of the content and thus complete the program in a shorter period of time. We recommend this course of action for any corpsman or pharmacist's mate who feels himself capable of doing so.

Currently only those people who have completed the prescribed course of study in an accredited school of practical nursing are qualified to take the licensing examination. We believe that the responsibility for establishing criteria and evaluating performance (didactic and clinical) belong in the schools of practical nursing where faculty is available and qualified to carry out these evaluations.

To allow persons with dissimilar educational backgrounds to take the licensing exam could produce serious dilution of the quality of Nursing care provided by licensed practical nurses in Nevada. We strongly urge a no pass on SB-25.

Exhibit C

STATE BOARD OF NURSING

100 Vassar Street, Reno, Nevada 89502

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STATEMENT ON S.B. 25

Senate Committee on Health, Welfare & State Institutions

Prepared by: Jean T. Peavy, R.N., Executive Secretary
Nevada State Board of Nursing

The Nevada State Board of Nursing is opposed to S.B. 25.

Since 1963 only graduates of state approved schools of practical nursing have been eligible for licensure as a practical nurse in Nevada. We have seven (7) fully approved programs and three (3) approved for admission of one class. Ninety to one hundred persons graduate from our programs each year, and we license another one hundred or more by endorsement or reciprocity.

Over 85% of our LPN's currently practicing in Nevada are graduates of approved programs. The minimum hours required in the curriculum in Nevada are 1600. The majority of schools offer over 1800 hours. The programs are twelve (12) months in length, including vacation and sick leave. The curriculum must include medical, surgical, obstetric, pediatric nursing and mental health.

The courses offered in the Armed Forces vary in length. Five titles are used in S.B. 25 (lines 15-19). Medical Specialist and Medical Corpsman are used in the Army. The corpsman, according to the Dictionary of Occupational Titles is similar to an unlicensed practical nurse; the specialist is a medical assistant or nurse aide. The courses are 10 to 12 weeks in length.

Advanced Medical Service Technician and Hospital Corpsman Technician are higher levels to which the specialist and corpsman may be promoted through additional training and experience.

Class A Hospital Corpsman is one whom the Navy prepares in a course of 23 to 28 weeks and includes principles of direct patient care, first aid, minor surgery, etc.

Since there are differences in preparation of the five titles listed, how is one to interpret line 20(g) "any equivalent rating in his particular branch of the Armed Forces"?

Should S.B. 25 be passed we would have a double standard for practical nurse licensure in Nevada. There is a great difference between a 28 week course and a 48 week course.

The information on titles was obtained from the Army, Air Force and Navy recruiters in Reno.

2/4/75

EXHIBIT D



Nevada Nurses' Association

1450 East 2nd Street Reno, Nevada 89502 (702) 329-5551

February 4, 1975

TESTIMONY AGAINST SENATE BILL NO. 25

To allow persons with certain military experience to qualify for the Licensed Practical Nurse examination.

My name is Ethelda Thelen, Executive Director for the Nevada Nurses Association, present today to report to you a position of the Nevada Nurses' Association and opposing passage of this bill. The Board of Directors of the Nevada Nurses' Association has voted unanimously to oppose this legislation, based on the recommendation of both the Legislative Committee and the Nursing Practice Committee for the following reasons:

1. The Nevada Nurses Association worked very closely with the Licensed Practical Nurses Association and the Board of Nursing to ammend the Nurse Practice Act in 1963 which eliminated the licensing of practical nurses unless they completed an accredited program recognized by the State. In the intervening years, sufficient programs have been provided throughout the State to meet this level of patient care. The Association does not see, at this time, the need to lower the standards.
2. The Nevada Licensed Practical Nurses Association and the Board of Nursing are also in opposition to passage of this bill.
3. Since a professional nurse is legally responsible for the delegation of nursing care to other personnel, the nurse must have ~~competence~~ *Confidence* in the educational preparation of that health worker.
4. The ability to challenge an educational program is assured for the Licensed Practical Nurse student. The educational program is the agency responsible for certifying that the student has completed the objectives of such a program. The licensing examination is designed to provide a minimum entrance to practice.
5. A Task Force of nursing educators from the three community colleges in Nevada, the State Department of Education, the Schools of Nursing at the University of Nevada in Reno and Las Vegas, and the Board of Nursing have been diligently working, since August of 1973, to develop an articulation plan for all levels of nursing educational programs in Nevada. Upward and lateral mobility for students to move from one program to another is one of the main challenge to the Task Force. Incidentally, the next meeting of this Task Force is February 7th and 8th in Reno.
6. The Nevada Nurses Association, the Nevada Licensed Practical Nurses Association, and the Nevada Board of Nursing were not consulted by either Senator Raggio or the Nevada Hospital Association prior to the development of this bill. The Nevada Nurses Association feels strongly that legislation, concerning all levels of nursing, should be referred to this Association for professional advise and we stand ready to provide that upon request.

Exhibit E

NEVADA LICENSED PRACTICAL NURSES ASSOCIATION, INC.
Member of
NATIONAL FEDERATION OF LICENSED PRACTICAL NURSES, INC.

Fallon, Nevada
Feb. 4, 1975

The Honorable Lee Walker, Chairman
&
Senate Committee on Health, Welfare and State Institutions

I am Ellen Pope, LPN. I live at 1298 Lovelock Hwy, Fallon, Nevada 89406.
I am First Vice President of the Nevada Licensed Practical Nurses Association, Inc.
Also I am Chairman of the Legislative Committee.

The only information our Association had prior to the submission of the Senate Bill #25 was obtained at the Legislative Seminar on Dec. 14, 1974 at the Holiday Hotel in Reno.

Because of the report by Ms Sharon Greene, our Association discussed the question of "waiver" licensure for L.P.N.'s and voted against the concept of licensure for any person or group without completion of the prescribed schooling as now set down by law. We sent a letter at that time to the Nevada State Board of Nursing with a copy to the Nevada Nurses' Association.

I have brought with me today a copy of that letter for each of you.

Since our Association and the Nevada Nurses' Association were not contacted prior to the introduction of this bill, we feel in the best interest of our health delivery system and the need of providing the best care for all the people in the State of Nevada, this should be referred to our Associations to allow us to perform adequate studies enabling us to comment regarding this bill with good conscience.

We, of course, realize that these servicemen have had training in the nursing field and in order for us to meet our future manpower requirements and to utilize their knowledge and experience would be invaluable. But, we cannot visualize lowering our Nevada standards of good nursing care or our educational requirements that would jeopardize any patient.

Ellen Pope

We must define qualifications from each branch of Service Medical Corpsman; of their training requirements and methods of evaluation. We must establish what they would be equal to in the State of Nevada. We feel that direct communication with the man's service record regarding training relating to bedside nursing care is necessary.

We must learn what other States are doing in this area and what, if any, problems they are having. I have contacted the California LPN Association for input; but have not had time to contact other states.

Based upon National trends where emphasis is being placed on continuing education for LPN's, we feel this bill would, as is now written, be in conflict with the standards prescribed for Federal and State Agencies.

We feel that it would be better to allow a service man to challenge the prescribed course of study rather than the examination, itself.

Thank you very much for allowing me to testify today. I will be available for any questions or any other assistance I can give to help satisfactorily settle this question in the best interest of Nevada's patients.

Ellen Pope LPN

Ellen Pope LPN
Nevada LPN Association
Legislative Chairman
1298 Lovelock Hwy.
Fallon, Nevada 89406

January 16, 1975

C O P Y

State Board of Nursing
100 Vassar Street
Reno, Nevada

Dear Mrs. Peavy, R. N.:

The Nevada Licensed Practical Nursing Executive Board convened on January 16th, and the Board considered the question of "waiver" licensure for L.P.N.'s. We voted against the concept of licensure for any person or group without completion of the prescribed schooling as now set down by law (632.270-1d)

We feel that any other procedure would definitely be lowering of standard as they now exist.

For years our organization, with others, have worked to have waiver licensure removed from the statutes. Without the formal education that is now being improved by the advent of the Community College, we strongly feel that this proposed move of re-establishing waiver licensure, would be detrimental to patient care and all L.P.N.'s that currently hold certificates from accredited schools of practical nursing.

At the National Federation of Licensed Practical Nurses 1974 Convention in Atlantic City, our association went on record as favoring the concept that only high school graduates be accepted as candidates in the schools of practical nursing.

Therefore, it is the recommendation of the Nevada Licensed Practical Nurses Executive Board that we take an adamant stand against waiver licensure.

Copy to Nevada Nurses Association

Josephine Wimple, President
Linda Romero, Rec. Secretary
Ellen Pope, 1st Vice Pres.
Marla Ramey, 2nd Vice Pres.
Kathryn Lima, Dir. Dir. III
Erika Reichart Gray, Dir. Dir. II
Shirley Farnworth Chittenden,
Board Member Div. IV
Mary Ann Bautista, Board Member
Div. V
Arlene Avery, Board Member
Martha Johnson Burges,
Board Member
Alicia M. Giannotti, State Treas.



BOARD OF VOCATIONAL NURSE AND PSYCHIATRIC TECHNICIAN EXAMINERS

1020 N STREET, SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA 95814
TELEPHONE: (916) 445-0793



SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

IF YOU ARE APPLYING UNDER SECTION III (NURSING SERVICE IN THE MEDICAL CORPS OF ANY BRANCH OF THE ARMED FORCES), THE "PATIENT CARE" REFERRED TO IN SECTION (1) MEANS BEDSIDE NURSING CARE. YOU WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED IF THE NURSING CARE WAS NOT BEDSIDE CARE; THAT IS, IF IT WAS OUT-PATIENT, OPERATING ROOM, OR OTHER NON-BEDSIDE SITUATIONS.

PLEASE NOTE THAT SECTION #4 (MILITARY SERVICE APPLICANTS) #6(b) OF THE APPLICATION MUST BE BEDSIDE CARE ONLY AND NOT PATIENT CARE IN OTHER SITUATIONS.

11/74



SUMMARY OF REQUIREMENTS FOR LICENSURE AS A LICENSED VOCATIONAL NURSE

ALL APPLICANTS for licensure as a vocational nurse in California must meet all of the requirements under Section A.

SECTION A . . . ALL APPLICANTS

1. Minimum age—17 years. (There is no upper age limit.)
2. Must have completed 10th grade of schooling or its equivalent. (Furnish proof)
3. Have committed no act which, if committed by a licensee, would be a ground for disciplinary action.
4. Meet the requirements of one type of education in nursing as listed below under Section B: Item I, II, III, IV, or V.
5. Complete an application form.
6. Submit an application fee of \$15.00. (Fee will not be refunded)
7. Pass a written examination. (If you have passed the National League for Nursing Test Pool Practical Nursing Examination with a score equal to or better than the minimum passing score required in California and if you are currently and validly licensed as a Practical or Vocational Nurse in another state, territory of the United States, or a foreign country, you will not be required to take the examination in California.) Passing Scores are set by the Board annually for each new form of the examination.
8. Submit an Initial License Fee if all requirements for licensure have been met. This fee is in addition to the application fee. (See No. 7 above.) The Board will advise you of the amount of the fee to be paid. The Vocational Nursing Practice Act provides that the amount of the Initial License Fee shall be based on the amount of the current renewal fee. This fee cannot be paid until all other requirements have been met.

In addition to meeting all of the requirements under Section A, all applicants must meet the requirements of one of the FIVE METHODS OF QUALIFYING FOR LICENSURE as set forth in Section B.

SECTION B . . . FIVE METHODS OF QUALIFYING FOR LICENSURE

I. Graduates of California Accredited Schools of Vocational Nursing

1. Successful completion of the accredited 12-month course in Vocational Nursing.

II. Graduates of Out-of-State Schools of Practical/Vocational Nursing

1. The school of Practical/Vocational Nursing from which you graduated must have been accredited by the Board of Nursing in the state in which it is located.
2. The course you completed must have been 12 months in length. (If it was not 12 months in length, it may be possible for you to meet this requirement by completing additional work in a California accredited school or through nursing employment experience.)

NOTE: Licensure in another state does NOT entitle you to practice as a *licensed vocational nurse* in California. In order to practice as a licensed vocational nurse in California, you must be licensed by the California State Board of Vocational Nurse and Psychiatric Technician Examiners.

III. Nursing Service in the Medical Corps of Any Branch of the Armed Forces

1. Must submit proof of having had no less than 12 months' service on active duty in the medical corps of any of the armed forces rendering patient care.
2. Must submit proof of having completed a *basic course* of instruction in nursing while in the armed forces.
3. Must submit proof that claimed service was honorable.

NOTE: Those qualifying under this type of nursing education need not show proof of tenth grade education or its equivalent.

IV. Paid Experience in Addition to a Course in Nursing Approved by the Board

1. Must have completed a 450-hour course in vocational nursing approved by the Board of Vocational Nurse and Psychiatric Technician Examiners; 90 hours of which must have been in clinical instruction with patients. The course must have covered:

Medical-Surgical Nursing — 378 hours

Obstetric Nursing — 72 hours

NOTE: No credit is given for a 64-hour refresher course.

2. In addition to the 450-hour course, applicant must have had a minimum of 36 months of paid nursing experience within the 5 years immediately preceding the date of application for licensure, as follows:

Paid Nursing Experience Requirement:

Within 5 years prior to the date of application, applicants must have 36 months in compensated employment in a hospital or health agency approved by the Board with at least 12 months of this experience being acquired during the last 18 months prior to the date of application. Experience must be in the following nursing areas and in the amounts listed:

22 months — Medical-Surgical

2 months — Pediatric

12 months — in any of the areas listed above or in the following nursing areas:

Communicable Disease

Office (M.D.)

Obstetric

Public Health

Psychiatric

Operating Room

Industrial

(6 months of the above total of 36 months may be in the home care of patients under the supervision of a duly licensed physician.)

If required experience is not verified when application is first submitted, re-evaluation will be carried out only *after* applicant notifies Board of Vocational Nurse and Psychiatric Technician Examiners that more experience has been completed. Time limits for creditable paid nursing experience will be computed from date of reactivation of application.

NOTE: No credit will be given for experience as a babysitter, companion, housekeeper, maid, diet maid or cook.

Equivalent Education and/or Experience

To qualify for licensure as a Licensed Vocational Nurse, the following combination of paid nursing experience and nursing education or nursing experience alone is considered to be equivalent to a prescribed course of study in an accredited school of vocational nursing:

Credit may be given after Board review of transcripts, for completion of any portion of a course in an accredited school of vocational/practical or professional nursing, or an In-Service course offered by a hospital, or a course for Nurse Aides or non-accredited programs in practical nursing, verified by transcripts, in addition to the credit given for verified paid nursing experience.

Verified paid bedside nursing experience in a general hospital in staff or private duty nursing is creditable, provided that dates of work experience are specified by the agency and:

- (a) All of the experience was within 10 years immediately preceding application for licensure, and at least one half of that experience was within 5 years immediately preceding application for licensure.
- (b) Private duty experience must be verified by the Registry, Hospital, or Physician in charge and must show diagnosis of each patient and specific dates of employment on each case.
Total employment will be credited on the basis of a 5-day, 40-hour week.
- (c) No credit will be given for nonbedside nursing experience such as Central Supply, Ward Clerk, Out-Patient Department, Emergency Room, Inhalation Therapy and Home Health Aide.

The total amount of credit needed is 78 months divided as follows:

74 months medical-surgical

2 months obstetrical (male applicants may substitute 2 months genitourinary nursing)

2 months pediatric

12 months' experience in any of the following areas may be substituted for 12 months of medical-surgical experience:

Communicable Disease Nursing

Public Health Nursing

Industrial Nursing

Office Nursing (M.D.)

Psychiatric Nursing

Operating Room

The evaluation of the nursing program will be converted into months of credit and added to your paid work experience. If your application is not accepted because of insufficient work experience and is reactivated at a later date when you have acquired more work experience the time limits for creditable experience must be computed from the date of reactivation.