
ASSEMBLY BILL NO. 22—ASSEMBLYWOMAN KOIVISTO

PREFILED JANUARY 29, 2003

Referred to Committee on Commerce and Labor

SUMMARY—Revises requirements for licensure of nurses.
(BDR 54-240)

FISCAL NOTE: Effect on Local Government: No.
Effect on the State: No.

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EXPLANATION – Matter in *bolded italics* is new; matter between brackets ~~omitted material~~ is material to be omitted.

AN ACT relating to nursing; defining certain terms related to the regulation of nursing; revising the requirements for the licensure of nurses; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, REPRESENTED IN
SENATE AND ASSEMBLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

1 **Section 1.** Chapter 632 of NRS is hereby amended by adding
2 thereto the provisions set forth as sections 2 to 5, inclusive, of this
3 act.

4 **Sec. 2.** *“Accredited school of practical nursing” means a*
5 *school of practical nursing which is accredited by a nationally*
6 *recognized association or an agency authorized by law to accredit*
7 *schools of practical nursing in the state in which the school is*
8 *located.*

9 **Sec. 3.** *“Accredited school of professional nursing” means a*
10 *school of professional nursing which is accredited by a nationally*
11 *recognized association or an agency authorized by law to accredit*
12 *schools of professional nursing in the state in which the school is*
13 *located.*

14 **Sec. 4.** *“Approved school of practical nursing” means a*
15 *school of practical nursing that is approved by the Board as*
16 *meeting the standards for practical nursing education established*
17 *by the Board pursuant to NRS 632.430.*



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1 **Sec. 5.** *“Approved school of professional nursing” means a*
2 *school of professional nursing that is approved by the Board as*
3 *meeting the standards for professional nursing education*
4 *established by the Board pursuant to NRS 632.440 to 632.470,*
5 *inclusive.*

6 **Sec. 6.** NRS 632.010 is hereby amended to read as follows:
7 632.010 As used in this chapter, unless the context otherwise
8 requires, the words and terms defined in NRS 632.011 to 632.0195,
9 inclusive, *and sections 2 to 5, inclusive, of this act* have the
10 meanings ascribed to them in those sections.

11 **Sec. 7.** NRS 632.011 is hereby amended to read as follows:
12 632.011 “Accredited school of nursing” means a school of
13 nursing which is accredited by a nationally recognized association
14 or an agency authorized by law to accredit ~~for approve~~ schools of
15 nursing in the state in which the school is located.

16 **Sec. 8.** NRS 632.120 is hereby amended to read as follows:
17 632.120 1. The Board shall:

18 (a) Adopt regulations establishing reasonable standards:
19 (1) For the denial, renewal, suspension and revocation of,
20 and the placement of conditions, limitations and restrictions upon, a
21 license to practice professional or practical nursing or a certificate to
22 practice as a nursing assistant.

23 (2) Of professional conduct for the practice of nursing.

24 (3) For prescribing and dispensing controlled substances and
25 dangerous drugs in accordance with applicable statutes.

26 (b) Prepare and administer examinations for the issuance of a
27 license or certificate under this chapter.

28 (c) Investigate and determine the eligibility of an applicant for a
29 license or certificate under this chapter.

30 (d) Carry out and enforce the provisions of this chapter and the
31 regulations adopted pursuant thereto.

32 2. The Board may adopt regulations establishing reasonable:

33 (a) Qualifications for the issuance of a license or certificate
34 under this chapter.

35 (b) Standards for the continuing professional competence of
36 licensees or holders of a certificate. The Board may evaluate
37 licensees or holders of a certificate periodically for compliance with
38 those standards.

39 3. The Board may adopt regulations establishing a schedule of
40 reasonable fees and charges, in addition to those set forth in NRS
41 632.345, for:

42 (a) Investigating licensees or holders of a certificate and
43 applicants for a license or certificate under this chapter;

44 (b) Evaluating the professional competence of licensees or
45 holders of a certificate;



- 1 (c) Conducting hearings pursuant to this chapter;
- 2 (d) Duplicating and verifying records of the Board; and
- 3 (e) Surveying, evaluating and approving schools of practical
- 4 nursing, and schools and courses of professional nursing,
- 5 and collect the fees established pursuant to this subsection.

6 4. *For the purposes of this chapter, the Board shall, by*
7 *regulation, define the term "in the process of obtaining*
8 *accreditation."*

9 5. The Board may adopt such other regulations, not
10 inconsistent with state or federal law, as may be necessary to carry
11 out the provisions of this chapter relating to nursing assistant
12 trainees and nursing assistants.

13 ~~5.~~ 6. The Board may adopt such other regulations, not
14 inconsistent with *state or federal* law, as are necessary to enable it
15 to administer the provisions of this chapter.

16 **Sec. 9.** NRS 632.140 is hereby amended to read as follows:

17 632.140 1. Every applicant for a license to practice as a
18 professional nurse in the State of Nevada ~~shall~~ *must* submit to the
19 Board written evidence under oath that he:

- 20 (a) Is of good moral character.
- 21 (b) Is in good physical and mental health.
- 22 (c) Has completed a course of study in ~~an~~ :

23 (1) *An* accredited school of professional nursing and holds a
24 diploma therefrom ~~it~~ ; *or*

25 (2) *An approved school of professional nursing in the*
26 *process of obtaining accreditation and holds a diploma therefrom.*

27 (d) Meets such other reasonable preliminary qualification
28 requirements as the Board may from time to time prescribe.

29 2. Each applicant ~~shall~~ *must* remit the fee required by this
30 chapter with his application for a license to practice as a
31 professional nurse in this state.

32 **Sec. 10.** NRS 632.270 is hereby amended to read as follows:

33 632.270 Each applicant for a license to practice as a practical
34 nurse ~~shall~~ *must* submit to the Board written evidence, under oath,
35 that he:

- 36 1. Is of good moral character.
- 37 2. Has a high school diploma or its equivalent as determined by
- 38 the State Board of Education.
- 39 3. Is at least 18 years of age.
- 40 4. Has:

41 (a) Successfully completed the prescribed course of study in an
42 accredited school of practical nursing or *an accredited school of*
43 *professional nursing*, and been awarded a diploma by the school;
44 ~~or~~



1 (b) *Successfully completed the prescribed course of study in an*
2 *approved school of practical nursing in the process of obtaining*
3 *accreditation or an approved school of professional nursing in the*
4 *process of obtaining accreditation, and been awarded a diploma by*
5 *the school; or*

6 (c) Been registered or licensed as a registered nurse under the
7 laws of another jurisdiction.

8 5. Meets any other qualifications prescribed in regulations of
9 the Board.

10 **Sec. 11.** NRS 632.343 is hereby amended to read as follows:

11 632.343 1. The Board shall not renew any license issued
12 under this chapter until the licensee has submitted proof satisfactory
13 to the Board of completion, during the 2-year period before renewal
14 of the license, of 30 hours in a program of continuing education
15 approved by the Board. The licensee is exempt from this provision
16 for the first biennial period after graduation from ~~an~~:

17 (a) *An accredited school of professional nursing ~~for~~;*

18 (b) *An accredited school of practical nursing ~~is~~;*

19 (c) *An approved school of professional nursing in the process*
20 *of obtaining accreditation; or*

21 (d) *An approved school of practical nursing in the process of*
22 *obtaining accreditation.*

23 2. The Board shall review all courses offered to nurses for the
24 completion of the requirement set *forth* in subsection 1. The Board
25 may approve nursing and other courses which are directly related to
26 the practice of nursing as well as others which bear a reasonable
27 relationship to current developments in the field of nursing or any
28 special area of practice in which a licensee engages. These may
29 include academic studies, workshops, extension studies, home study
30 and other courses.

31 **Sec. 12.** NRS 632.430 is hereby amended to read as follows:

32 632.430 1. The Board may prescribe standards and curricula
33 for schools of practical nursing, visit, survey and approve those
34 schools, and remove those schools from a list of approved schools
35 of nursing for just cause.

36 2. *A school of practical nursing in this state must be:*

37 (a) *An accredited school of practical nursing; or*

38 (b) *An approved school of practical nursing in the process of*
39 *obtaining accreditation.*

40 **Sec. 13.** NRS 632.440 is hereby amended to read as follows:

41 632.440 1. The Board shall prescribe curricula and standards
42 for schools and courses of professional nursing. The Board shall
43 provide for surveys of such schools and courses at such times as it
44 may deem necessary. It shall approve such schools and courses as
45 meet the requirements of this chapter and of the Board. It shall



1 evaluate and approve courses for affiliation with approved schools
2 of nursing in this state or with schools of nursing which have
3 applied for such approval.

4 **2. A school of professional nursing in this state must be:**

5 *(a) An accredited school of professional nursing; or*

6 *(b) An approved school of professional nursing in the process*
7 *of obtaining accreditation.*

8 **Sec. 14.** This act becomes effective upon passage and
9 approval.

