

SENATE BILL NO. 423—COMMITTEE ON HUMAN
RESOURCES AND FACILITIES

MARCH 19, 2001

Referred to Committee on Commerce and Labor

SUMMARY—Revises provisions governing issuance of license to practice as professional nurse or practical nurse or certificate to practice as nursing assistant to person who has been issued corresponding license or certificate in another jurisdiction. (BDR 54-1081)

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; eliminating the statutory requirements for the issuance of a license to practice as a professional nurse or practical nurse or a certificate to practice as a nursing assistant to a person who has been issued a corresponding license or certificate in another jurisdiction; authorizing the state board of nursing to issue such a license or certificate in accordance with requirements adopted by the board; 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 thereto a
2 new section to read as follows:
3 1. *The board may provide for the issuance of a license to practice as*
4 *a professional nurse or practical nurse or a certificate to practice as a*
5 *nursing assistant, without examination, to a person who has been issued*
6 *a corresponding license or certificate in another jurisdiction.*
7 2. *If the board provides for the issuance of such licenses and*
8 *certificates, it shall adopt, by regulation, the qualifications required of an*
9 *applicant to obtain, and the procedures for obtaining, such a license or*
10 *certificate. The board may provide for the issuance of such licenses and*
11 *certificates:*
12 (a) *Only if the appropriate regulatory authority of the other*
13 *jurisdiction has entered into a written agreement with the board for the*
14 *recognition of such licenses and certificates; or*
15 (b) *By any other procedure deemed appropriate by the board.*
16 3. *The regulations adopted pursuant to subsection 2 must:*



1 (a) Ensure that all persons who are issued a license or certificate
2 pursuant to this section are professionally qualified to practice nursing
3 in this state.

4 (b) Include procedures for verifying that a person who is issued a
5 license or certificate pursuant to this section is licensed or certified in
6 good standing in another jurisdiction.

7 (c) Provide for the protection of the health, safety and welfare of the
8 residents of this state.

9 4. The board shall not issue a license to practice as a professional
10 nurse or practical nurse or a certificate to practice as a nursing assistant
11 to a person who has been issued a corresponding license or certificate in
12 another jurisdiction pursuant to this section unless the board determines
13 that the requirements for licensure or certification in that jurisdiction are
14 substantially equivalent to the requirements for licensure or certification
15 in this state.

16 Sec. 2. NRS 632.270 is hereby amended to read as follows:

17 632.270 Each applicant for a license to practice as a practical nurse
18 ~~shall~~ **must** submit to the board written evidence, under oath, that he:

- 19 1. Is of good moral character.
20 2. Has a high school diploma or its equivalent as determined by the
21 state board of education.
22 3. Is at least 18 years of age.

23 4. Has ~~+~~
24 ~~—(a) Successfully~~ **successfully** completed the prescribed course of study
25 in an accredited school of practical nursing or professional nursing, and
26 been awarded a diploma by the school. ~~+~~ ~~or~~

27 ~~—(b) Been registered or licensed as a registered nurse under the laws of~~
28 ~~another jurisdiction.~~

29 5. Meets any other qualifications prescribed in regulations of the
30 board.

31 Sec. 3. NRS 632.280 is hereby amended to read as follows:

32 632.280 The board shall grant a license to practice as a practical nurse
33 in this state to each applicant who has the preliminary qualifications set
34 forth in NRS 632.270 and who ~~+~~

35 ~~1. Passes~~ **passes** the practical nurses examination, which examination
36 must be given by the board not less than once each calendar year. ~~+~~ ~~or~~

37 ~~2. Holds a license as a practical nurse under the laws of another~~
38 ~~jurisdiction after passing an examination required by that jurisdiction, if it~~
39 ~~appears to the board that the requirements and scope of the required~~
40 ~~examination were at least equivalent to those prescribed by this chapter for~~
41 ~~examinations. If the applicant was trained as a nurse in a jurisdiction where~~
42 ~~English is not the prevalent language, the board shall require that the~~
43 ~~applicant pass an examination testing his proficiency in reading, writing~~
44 ~~and speaking English.~~

45 Sec. 4. NRS 632.2852 is hereby amended to read as follows:

46 632.2852 1. An applicant for a certificate to practice as a nursing
47 assistant must submit to the board written evidence under oath that he:

- 48 (a) Is of good moral character;
49 (b) Is in good physical and mental health;



- 1 (c) Is at least 16 years of age; and
2 (d) Meets such other reasonable requirements as the board prescribes.
3 2. An applicant may be certified by examination if he:
4 (a) Submits a completed written application and the fee required by this
5 chapter;
6 (b) Completes a training program approved by the board and supplies a
7 certificate of completion from the program;
8 (c) Passes the certification examination approved by the board; and
9 (d) Has not committed any acts which would be grounds for
10 disciplinary action if committed by a nursing assistant, unless the board
11 determines that sufficient restitution has been made or the act was not
12 substantially related to nursing.
13 3. ~~An applicant who is licensed or certified as a nursing assistant in~~
14 ~~another state may be certified by endorsement if he:~~
15 ~~—(a) Submits a completed written application and the fee required by this~~
16 ~~chapter;~~
17 ~~—(b) Submits proof of successful completion of a training program~~
18 ~~approved by the appropriate agency of another state;~~
19 ~~—(c) Has passed a certification examination approved by the board to be~~
20 ~~equivalent to the examination required in this state; and~~
21 ~~—(d) Has not committed any acts which would be grounds for~~
22 ~~disciplinary action if committed by a nursing assistant, unless the board~~
23 ~~determines that sufficient restitution has been made or the act was not~~
24 ~~substantially related to nursing.~~
25 ~~4.~~ The board shall issue a certificate to practice as a nursing assistant to
26 each applicant who meets the requirements of this section.
27 **Sec. 5.** NRS 632.300 is hereby amended to read as follows:
28 632.300 1. Upon application and payment of the required fee, the
29 board may without examination grant a:
30 (a) Temporary license to practice professional nursing or practical
31 nursing; or
32 (b) Temporary certificate to practice as a nursing
33 assistant,
34 to a person whose corresponding license or certificate from another
35 jurisdiction is in good standing ~~+~~ *in accordance with any regulations*
36 *adopted pursuant to section 1 of this act.*
37 2. Only one temporary license or certificate may be issued pursuant to
38 this section to any one person during any 12-month period.
39 **Sec. 6.** NRS 632.160 is hereby repealed.

TEXT OF REPEALED SECTION

632.160 Admission to practice without examination. The board shall, without examination, issue a license to practice nursing as a professional nurse to any applicant who otherwise meets the qualifications required of professional nurses in this state and who has been duly licensed



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or registered as a registered nurse under the laws of any other jurisdiction after passing an examination required by that jurisdiction, if it appears to the board that the requirements and scope of the required examination were at least equivalent to those prescribed by this chapter for examinations. If the applicant was trained as a nurse in a jurisdiction where English is not the prevalent language, the board shall require that the applicant pass an examination testing his proficiency in reading, writing and speaking English.

