

1 State of Arkansas
2 93rd General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 2021
4

A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1780

5 By: Representative Bentley
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For An Act To Be Entitled

8 AN ACT TO AMEND THE LAWS CONCERNING MEDICATION
9 ASSISTIVE PERSONS; TO ALLOW EDUCATION PROGRAMS FOR
10 LICENSED PRACTICAL NURSES IN CERTAIN FACILITIES; AND
11 FOR OTHER PURPOSES.
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Subtitle

14 TO AMEND THE LAWS CONCERNING MEDICATION
15 ASSISTIVE PERSONS; AND TO ALLOW EDUCATION
16 PROGRAMS FOR LICENSED PRACTICAL NURSES IN
17 CERTAIN FACILITIES.
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21 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:
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23 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 17-87-304, concerning licensure of licensed
24 practical nurses, is amended to add an additional subsection to read as
25 follows:

26 (e) Educational Program. The educational program for the preparation
27 of licensed practical nurses may be provided by a post-secondary educational
28 institution, a hospital, or a consortium of five (5) or more skilled nursing
29 facilities.
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31 SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 17-87-704, concerning the qualifications to
32 be certified as a medication assistive person, is amended to add an
33 additional subsection to read as follows:

34 (d) The training courses for medication assistive persons may be
35 provided by a post-secondary educational institution, a hospital, or a
36 consortium of five (5) or more skilled nursing facilities.



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SECTION 3. Arkansas Code § 20-10-1401(2), concerning the definition of "direct-care staff" regarding the staffing requirements for nursing facilities, is amended to read as follows:

(2)(A) "Direct-care staff" means any nurse aide, medication assistive person as defined in § 17-87-701, or licensed nurse who provides direct, hands-on care to nursing facility residents.

(B) "Direct-care staff" shall not include:

- ~~(i) Therapy therapy personnel or personnel listed in § 20-10-1404; or~~
- ~~(ii) Medication assistive persons as defined in § 17-87-701;~~