

Regular Session, 2013

HOUSE BILL NO. 120

BY REPRESENTATIVE PUGH

Prefiled pursuant to Article III, Section 2(A)(4)(b)(i) of the Constitution of Louisiana.

NURSES: Authorizes the La. State Board of Nursing and the La. State Board of Practical Nurse Examiners to accept certain accreditations for nurses

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 37:918(2) and 969(A)(2), relative to nursing boards; to require  
3 that certain boards approve nursing programs and training that receive accreditation  
4 from specific national or regional accrediting agencies; to require that certain boards  
5 grant professional and industry privileges to schools and programs accredited by  
6 national or regional accrediting agencies; and to provide for related matters.

7 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

8 Section 1. R.S. 37:918(2) and 969(A)(2) are hereby amended and reenacted to read  
9 as follows:

10 §918. Duties and powers of the board

11 The board shall:

12 \* \* \*

13 (2) Approve nursing education programs whose graduates meet the licensing  
14 requirements of the board, including those programs accredited by national and  
15 regional institutional accrediting agencies, such as the Council on Occupational  
16 Education and the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools, that are recognized  
17 by the United States Department of Education. The board shall afford all other  
18 professional and industry-related privileges to institutions offering nursing education

1 programs accredited by these agencies, including the right for graduates to take the  
2 requisite licensing examination.

3 \* \* \*

4 §969. Duties and powers of the board

5 A. The board shall:

6 \* \* \*

7 (2) Approve practical nursing training at all schools making application,  
8 public or private, accredited by a national or regional accrediting agency recognized  
9 by the United States Department of Education, including the Council on  
10 Occupational Education and the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools, and  
11 hospitals with courses meeting the requirements of the board. The board shall afford  
12 all other professional and industry-related privileges to schools offering practical  
13 nursing training accredited by these agencies, including the right for graduates to  
14 take the requisite licensing examination. All other requirements such as enrollment,  
15 staffing, tuition, etc. will be regulated by the criteria established by the recognized  
16 accrediting agency of the schools.

17 \* \* \*

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DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

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Pugh

HB No. 120

**Abstract:** Requires the La. State Board of Nursing and the La. State Board of Practical Nurse Examiners to approve nursing programs and training that receive accreditation from specified national and regional accrediting agencies.

Present law (R.S. 37:918(2)) requires the La. State Board of Nursing to approve nursing education programs whose graduates meet the licensing requirements of the board.

Proposed law requires the board to approve programs accredited by national and regional institutional accrediting agencies, including the Council on Occupational Education and the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools, that are recognized by the U.S. Dept. of Education. Also, requires the board to afford all professional and industry-related privileges to institutions offering nursing education programs accredited by these agencies, including the right for graduates to take the requisite licensing examination.

Present law (R.S. 37:969(A)(2)) requires the La. State Board of Practical Nurse Examiners to approve practical nursing training at all schools that apply, whether public or private, and accredited by a national or regional accrediting agency recognized by the U.S. Dept. of Education.

Proposed law requires the board to approve training at schools accredited specifically by the Council on Occupational Education and the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools. Also, requires the board to afford all other professional and industry-related privileges to schools offering practical nursing training accredited by these agencies, including the right for graduates to take the requisite licensing examination.

(Amends R.S. 37:918(2) and 969(A)(2))