

2023 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 320

BY REPRESENTATIVE TURNER

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

NURSES: Provides relative to nursing education

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 37:970(3) and to enact R.S. 40:2120.52(C), relative to nursing
3 education; to provide for the qualifications of a licensed practical nurse; to provide
4 for the qualifications of a certified nurse aide; and to provide for related matters.

5 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

6 Section 1. R.S. 37:970(3) is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

7 §970. Qualifications of applicants

8 An applicant for a license to practice as a practical nurse shall:

9 * * *

10 (3) ~~Have successfully completed the course in an accredited school for the~~
11 ~~training of practical nurses.~~ Satisfy either of the following requirements:

12 (a) Successfully complete an education program for practical nurses at a
13 program approved by the board.

14 (b) Successfully complete an education program for registered nurses at a
15 program approved by the Louisiana State Board of Nursing.

16 Section 2. R.S. 40:2120.52(C) is hereby enacted to read as follows:

17 §2120.52. State registration of certified nurse aides in nursing facilities

18 * * *

1 C.(1) An individual who successfully completes one semester of a registered
2 or practical nursing program that includes a course on foundational nursing skills
3 may practice as a certified nurse aide.

4 (2) A nurse aide who satisfies the requirements of this Subsection may
5 register with the Louisiana Certified Nurse Aide Registry and shall not be required
6 to complete a nurse aide training or competency evaluation program.

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)]

HB 320 Engrossed

2023 Regular Session

Turner

Abstract: Permits a qualifying nursing student to be licensed or certified in a nursing profession with lesser educational requirements.

Present law states that a licensed practical nurse (LPN) must graduate from an approved LPN program.

Proposed law retains present law and permits a student to register as an LPN if he successfully completes an education program for registered nurses.

Proposed law permits a nursing student who completes a course in the fundamentals of nursing offered by a practical or registered nursing program shall not be required to complete a certified nursing training or competency evaluation program and may register as a certified nurse aide (CNA) in this state.

(Amends R.S. 37:970(3); Adds R.S. 40:2120.52(C))

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

The Committee Amendments Proposed by House Committee on Health and Welfare to the original bill:

1. Require an applicant to successfully complete either an education program for practical nurses or an education program for registered nurses.
2. Make technical changes.