

GREEN SHEET REDIGEST

HB 320

2023 Regular Session

Turner

NURSES. Provides relative to nursing education.

DIGEST

Present law provides for the requirements to be licensed as a practical nurse. Present law further provides that an applicant shall have successfully completed the course in an accredited school for the training of practical nurses. Proposed law instead requires the applicant to successfully complete either an education program for practical nurses at a program approved by the La. State Board of Practical Nurse Examiners, or an education program for registered nurses at a program approved by the La. State Board of Nursing.

Present law provides for certified nurse aides employed by a nursing facility or contracted by a nursing facility to provide nursing assistant services to the residents of a nursing facility. Present law further provides for the regulation and registration of certified nurse aides by the La. Dept. of Health (LDH). Proposed law allows an individual who successfully completes one semester of a registered or practical nursing program that includes a course on foundational nursing skills to apply to take a nurse aide competency evaluation examination approved by LDH. Proposed law further provides that an individual who successfully passes an approved nurse aide competency evaluation examination may register with the La. Certified Nurse Aide Registry and shall not be required to complete a nurse aide training program.

(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.

The House Floor Amendments to the engrossed bill:

1. Require a prospective certified nurse aide who has completed a semester of courses in an education program for registered nurses or licensed practical nurses to take a certified nurse aide competency evaluation prior to registering with the Louisiana Certified Nurse Aide Registry.

Summary of Amendments Adopted by Senate

Committee Amendments Proposed by Senate Committee on Health and Welfare to the reengrossed bill

1. Clarify that an individual is not required to complete a nurse aide training program if he successfully passes an approved nurse aide competency evaluation examination.