

ASSEMBLY, No. 1582

STATE OF NEW JERSEY 218th LEGISLATURE

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 2018 SESSION

Sponsored by:

Assemblyman HERB CONAWAY, JR.

District 7 (Burlington)

Assemblyman PAUL D. MORIARTY

District 4 (Camden and Gloucester)

Assemblywoman GABRIELA M. MOSQUERA

District 4 (Camden and Gloucester)

Assemblyman DANIEL R. BENSON

District 14 (Mercer and Middlesex)

Assemblywoman NANCY J. PINKIN

District 18 (Middlesex)

Assemblyman THOMAS P. GIBLIN

District 34 (Essex and Passaic)

Assemblywoman ANNETTE QUIJANO

District 20 (Union)

Co-Sponsored by:

Assemblymen McKeon, S.Kean, Mazzeo, Caputo, Danielsen and

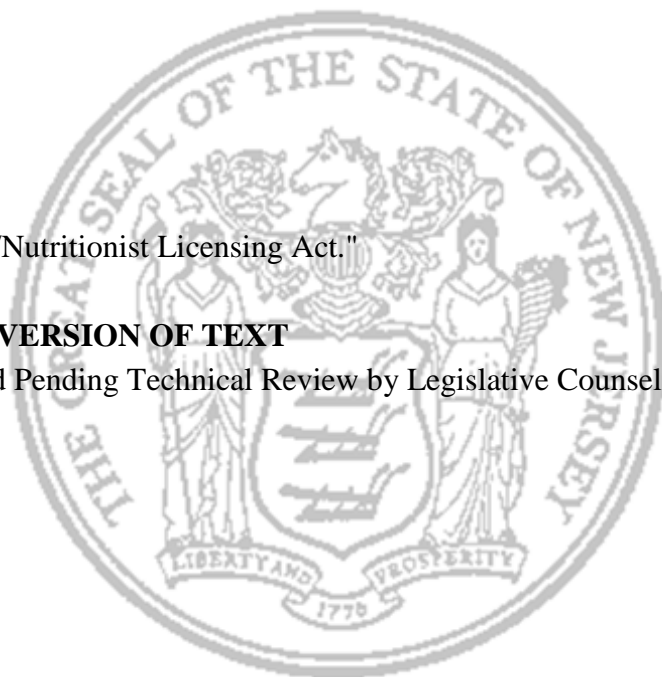
Assemblywoman Tucker

SYNOPSIS

"Dietitian/Nutritionist Licensing Act."

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

Introduced Pending Technical Review by Legislative Counsel.



A1582 CONAWAY, MORIARTY

2

1 AN ACT providing for the licensing of dietitians/nutritionists,
2 supplementing Title 45 of the Revised Statutes and amending
3 P.L.1971, c.60, P.L.1974, c.46 and P.L.1978, c.73.
4

5 **BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State
6 of New Jersey:
7

8 1. (New section) This act shall be known and may be cited as
9 the "Dietitian/Nutritionist Licensing Act."
10

11 2. (New section) The Legislature finds and declares that the
12 public interest requires the regulation of the practice of
13 dietetics/nutrition and the establishment of clear licensure standards
14 for nutritionists and dietitians; and that the health and welfare of the
15 residents of the State will be protected by identifying to the public
16 those individuals who are qualified and legally authorized to
17 practice dietetics/nutrition.
18

19 3. (New section) As used in this act:

20 "Board" means the State Board of Dietitians/Nutritionists
21 established pursuant to section 4 of this act.

22 "Dietetics/nutrition" means the integration and application of
23 scientific principles derived from the study of food, nutrition,
24 biochemistry, physiology, food management, and from behavioral
25 and social sciences in achieving and maintaining health throughout
26 the life span and in providing medical nutrition therapy for the
27 treatment of disease. It includes, but is not limited to: nutrition
28 assessment; nutrition diagnosis; nutrition intervention; monitoring
29 and evaluation of nutrition care plans; nutrition support, including
30 parenteral and enteral nutrition; nutritional counseling and
31 education; and the development and administration of nutrition care
32 standards and systems.

33 "Director" means the Director of the Division of Consumer
34 Affairs in the Department of Law and Public Safety.

35 "Licensed dietitian/nutritionist" means a person who is licensed
36 pursuant to the provisions of this act. The terms, "dietitian" and
37 "nutritionist," are used interchangeably in this act.

38 "Medical nutritional therapy" means nutritional diagnostic,
39 therapeutic, and counseling services for the purpose of disease
40 management.
41

42 4. (New section) There is created within the Division of
43 Consumer Affairs in the Department of Law and Public Safety the
44 State Board of Dietitians/Nutritionists. The board shall consist of
45 seven members who are residents of the State, one of whom shall be

EXPLANATION – Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

Matter underlined thus is new matter.

1 a public member and one of whom shall be a State executive
2 department member appointed pursuant to the provisions of
3 P.L.1971, c.60 (C.45:1-2.1 et seq.). Of the remaining five
4 members, four shall be, except for the members first appointed,
5 licensed dietitians/nutritionists under the provisions of this act and
6 shall have been actively engaged in the practice of
7 dietetics/nutrition in the State for at least five years immediately
8 preceding their appointment, as follows: one shall be a
9 dietitian/nutritionist whose primary practice is clinical nutrition;
10 one shall be a dietitian/nutritionist whose primary practice is
11 community or public health nutrition; one shall be a
12 dietitian/nutritionist whose primary practice is management of
13 clinical nutritional services or consulting in nutrition; and one shall
14 be a dietitian/nutritionist teaching in a college or university with an
15 accredited dietetic education program; and the remaining member
16 shall be a physician licensed to practice medicine and surgery
17 pursuant to chapter 9 of Title 45 of the Revised Statutes.

18 The Governor shall appoint the public member and the State
19 executive department member and shall appoint the remaining five
20 members with the advice and consent of the Senate. Each member,
21 other than the State executive department member, shall be
22 appointed for a term of three years, except that of the
23 dietitian/nutritionist members first appointed, two shall serve for a
24 term of three years, one shall serve for a term of two years and one
25 shall serve for a term of one year. Any vacancy in the membership
26 of the board shall be filled for the unexpired term in the manner
27 provided by the original appointment. No member of the board
28 may serve more than two successive terms in addition to any
29 unexpired term to which the member has been appointed.

30
31 5. (New section) Notwithstanding the provisions of section 2
32 of P.L.1977, c.285 (C.45:1-2.5) or any other law to the contrary, the
33 members of the board shall serve without compensation, and shall
34 not be entitled to receive any pension or health benefits based upon
35 their service as members of the board, but shall be reimbursed for
36 expenses and provided with office and meeting facilities pursuant to
37 section 2 of P.L.1977, c.285 (C.45:1-2.5).

38
39 6. (New section) The board shall organize within 30 days after
40 the appointment of its members and shall annually elect from
41 among its members a chairperson and vice-chairperson, and a
42 secretary who need not be a member of the board. The board shall
43 meet twice a year and may hold additional meetings as necessary to
44 discharge its duties. A majority of the board membership shall
45 constitute a quorum.

46
47 7. (New section) The board shall:
48 a. Review the qualifications of applicants for licensure;

- 1 b. Adopt a code of ethics;
- 2 c. Insure the proper conduct and standards of examinations;
- 3 d. Issue and renew biennial licenses for dietitians/nutritionists
- 4 pursuant to this act;
- 5 e. Refuse to admit a person to an examination or refuse to issue
- 6 or suspend, revoke, or fail to renew the license of a
- 7 dietitian/nutritionist pursuant to the provisions of P.L.1978, c.73
- 8 (C.45:1-14 et seq.);
- 9 f. Maintain a record of every dietitian/nutritionist licensed in
- 10 this State, their place of business, place of residence, and the date
- 11 and number of their license;
- 12 g. Prescribe or change the charges for examinations, licenses,
- 13 renewals, and other services it performs pursuant to P.L.1974, c.46
- 14 (C.45:1-3.1 et seq.), and set the passing score on any examination it
- 15 adopts as a licensure examination;
- 16 h. Establish rules and regulations with respect to continuing
- 17 education requirements; and
- 18 i. Adopt and promulgate rules and regulations pursuant to the
- 19 "Administrative Procedure Act," P.L.1968, c.410 (C.52:14B-1 et
- 20 seq.) necessary to effectuate the purposes of this act.
- 21
- 22 8. (New section) A person shall not practice dietetics/nutrition,
- 23 whether compensated or not, unless the person holds a valid license
- 24 to practice in this State, except nothing in this act shall be construed
- 25 to:
- 26 a. Prohibit a person licensed to practice pursuant to Title 45 of
- 27 the Revised Statutes from engaging in the practice or teaching of
- 28 dietetics or nutrition within the scope of that person's license or any
- 29 other person licensed to practice or certified to teach in this State
- 30 under any other law from engaging in the practice or teaching for
- 31 which that person is licensed, regulated, or certified;
- 32 b. Prohibit any student enrolled in a school or post-graduate
- 33 course of dietetics/nutrition recognized by the board from
- 34 performing that which is necessary to the student's course of study;
- 35 c. Prohibit any person from practicing dietetics/nutrition within
- 36 the scope of the person's official duties when employed by a
- 37 department, agency, bureau, division, or other unit of the federal
- 38 government, serving in the Armed Forces of the United States, or
- 39 employed by any State institution or facility;
- 40 d. Prohibit any person who does not hold himself out to be a
- 41 dietitian/nutritionist from furnishing nutritional information as to
- 42 the use of food, food materials, or dietary supplements, or from
- 43 engaging in the explanation to persons as to the use of food or food
- 44 products including dietary supplements;
- 45 e. Prohibit any person involved in presenting a general
- 46 program of instruction for weight control from doing so, provided
- 47 the program has been approved in writing by a dietitian/nutritionist
- 48 licensed in this State, a dietitian/nutritionist licensed in another

1 state that has licensure requirements substantially equivalent to
2 those of this State, as determined by the board, a dietitian registered
3 by the Commission on Dietetic Registration, or a licensed
4 physician; or

5 f. Prohibit a dietetic technician from providing nutrition
6 services under the supervision of a licensed dietitian/nutritionist.

7
8 9. (New section) To be eligible to be licensed as a
9 dietitian/nutritionist, an applicant shall fulfill the following
10 requirements:

11 a. Be at least 18 years of age;

12 b. Be of good moral character; and

13 c. (1) Provide evidence of current registration as a Registered
14 Dietitian by the Commission on Dietetic Registration; or

15 (2) (a) Have received a minimum of a baccalaureate degree
16 from a United States regionally accredited college or university
17 with a major course of study in nutritional sciences, human
18 nutrition, foods and nutrition, dietetics, community nutrition, public
19 health nutrition, nutrition education, or an equivalent major course
20 of study, as approved by the board, and have successfully
21 completed minimum course requirements in food sciences, social
22 and behavioral sciences, chemistry, biology, human nutrition, and
23 medical nutrition therapy, as determined by the board; or in the case
24 of an applicant who has obtained an education outside of the United
25 States, shall have the applicant's academic degree validated by the
26 board as being equivalent to a baccalaureate or master's degree
27 conferred by a United States regionally accredited college or
28 university; and

29 (b) Have successfully completed a planned clinical program in
30 an approved practice of dietetics/nutrition of not less than 1,200
31 hours under the supervision of: a dietitian/nutritionist licensed in
32 this State or licensed, registered, or certified in any other state
33 having requirements for licensure, registration, or certification
34 substantially similar to licensure requirements in this State, as
35 approved by the board; or a registered dietitian registered by the
36 Commission on Dietetic Registration; and

37 (c) Have passed an examination given by the Commission on
38 Dietetic Registration to practice dietetics/nutrition, which shall be
39 held by the board at least twice a year and may be administered by a
40 national testing service, as determined by the board; or

41 (3) (a) Have received from a United States regionally accredited
42 college or university a master's degree or doctorate in
43 dietetics/nutritional sciences, human nutrition, foods and nutrition,
44 dietetics, community nutrition, public health nutrition, nutrition
45 education, or an equivalent major course of study, as approved by
46 the board, and have successfully completed minimum course
47 requirements in food sciences, social and behavioral sciences,
48 chemistry, biology, human nutrition, and medical nutrition therapy,

1 as determined by the board; or in the case of an applicant who has
2 obtained an education outside of the United States, shall have the
3 applicant's academic degree validated by the board as being
4 equivalent to a master's degree or doctorate conferred by a United
5 States regionally accredited college or university; and

6 (b) Have a documented supervised experience in the United
7 States in the practice of dietetics/nutrition of not less than 1,200
8 hours under the supervision of: a dietitian/nutritionist licensed in
9 this State or licensed, registered, or certified in any other state
10 having requirements for licensure, registration, or certification
11 substantially similar to licensure requirements in this State, as
12 approved by the board; a registered dietitian registered by the
13 Commission on Dietetic Registration; or a licensed physician; and

14 (c) Have passed an examination given by the Commission on
15 Dietetic Registration to practice dietetics/nutrition, as provided in
16 subparagraph (c) of paragraph (2) of this subsection.

17

18 10. (New section) The board shall issue a license to any
19 applicant who, in the opinion of the board, has satisfactorily met all
20 the requirements of this act.

21 Except in the case of a temporary license issued pursuant to
22 section 14 of this act, all licenses shall be issued for a two-year
23 period upon the payment of the licensure fee prescribed by the
24 board, and shall be renewed upon filing of a renewal application,
25 the payment of a licensure fee, and presentation of satisfactory
26 evidence that the renewal applicant has successfully completed the
27 continuing education requirements prescribed by the board by
28 regulation.

29

30 11. (New section) Upon payment to the board of a fee and the
31 submission of a written application on forms provided by it, the
32 board shall license without examination a nutritionist or dietitian
33 who is licensed, registered or certified by another state or
34 possession of the United States or the District of Columbia which
35 has standards substantially equivalent to those of this State.

36

37 12. (New section) For a period of one year after the effective
38 date of this act, any person who is practicing or residing in this
39 State on the effective date of this act may qualify as a licensed
40 dietitian/nutritionist upon application for licensure and payment of
41 the appropriate fee, provided the applicant furnishes evidence
42 satisfactory to the board that the applicant has received a
43 baccalaureate or higher academic degree from a United States
44 regionally accredited college or university with a minimum of 30
45 credit hours or a major concentration of study in human nutrition,
46 foods and nutrition, food systems management, nutritional science,
47 nutritional education, or related courses approved by the board; and
48 has been employed at least half-time as a dietitian/nutritionist for

1 three of the last five years immediately preceding the effective date
2 of this act.

3
4 13. (New section) No person, business entity or its employees,
5 agents, or representatives shall use the titles, "dietitian/nutritionist,"
6 "nutritionist," "dietitian," "dietician," "nutrition counselor,"
7 "nutrition consultant," "nutrition specialist," "LDN," "LD," "LN,"
8 or any other title, designation, words, letters, abbreviations, or
9 insignia indicating the practice of dietetics/nutrition unless licensed
10 to practice dietetics/nutrition under the provisions of this act.

11
12 14. (New section) a. Upon payment to the board of a fee and
13 the submission of a written application on forms provided by it, the
14 board shall issue a temporary license to a person who has applied
15 for licensure pursuant to this act and who, in the judgment of the
16 board, is eligible for examination. A temporary license shall be
17 available to an applicant with the applicant's initial application for
18 examination and the applicant may practice only under the direct
19 supervision of a licensed dietitian/nutritionist. A temporary license
20 shall expire automatically upon failure of the licensure examination
21 but may be renewed until the date of the next examination at which
22 time it shall automatically expire and be surrendered to the board.

23 b. Upon payment to the board of a fee and the submission of a
24 written application on forms provided by it, the board may issue
25 without examination a temporary license to practice
26 dietetics/nutrition in this State to a person who provides evidence
27 that the person is in the State on a temporary basis to assist in a
28 medical emergency or engage in a special project or teaching
29 assignment relating to dietetics/nutrition. A temporary license shall
30 expire one year from its date of issuance, but it may be renewed by
31 the board for an additional one year period. This temporary license
32 shall be surrendered to the board upon its expiration.

33
34 15. Section 1 of P.L.1971, c.60 (C.45:1-2.1) is amended to read
35 as follows:

36 1. The provisions of this act shall apply to the following boards
37 and commissions: the New Jersey State Board of Accountancy, the
38 New Jersey State Board of Architects, the New Jersey State Board
39 of Cosmetology and Hairstyling, the Board of Examiners of
40 Electrical Contractors, the New Jersey State Board of Dentistry, the
41 State Board of Mortuary Science of New Jersey, the State Board of
42 Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors, the State Board of
43 Marriage and Family Therapy Examiners, the State Board of
44 Medical Examiners, the New Jersey Board of Nursing, the New
45 Jersey State Board of Optometrists, the State Board of Examiners of
46 Ophthalmic Dispensers and Ophthalmic Technicians, the Board of
47 Pharmacy, the State Board of Professional Planners, the State Board
48 of Psychological Examiners, the State Board of Examiners of

1 Master Plumbers, the New Jersey Real Estate Commission, the
2 State Board of Court Reporting, the State Board of Veterinary
3 Medical Examiners, the Radiologic Technology Board of
4 Examiners, the Acupuncture Examining Board, the State Board of
5 Chiropractic Examiners, the State Board of Respiratory Care, the
6 State Real Estate Appraiser Board, the State Board of Social Work
7 Examiners, the State Board of Examiners of Heating, Ventilating,
8 Air Conditioning and Refrigeration Contractors, the Elevator,
9 Escalator, and Moving Walkway Mechanics Licensing Board, the
10 State Board of Physical Therapy Examiners, the Orthotics and
11 Prosthetics Board of Examiners, the New Jersey Cemetery Board,
12 the State Board of Polysomnography, the New Jersey Board of
13 Massage and Bodywork Therapy, the Genetic Counseling Advisory
14 Committee, the State Board of Dietitians/Nutritionists, and any
15 other entity hereafter created under Title 45 to license or otherwise
16 regulate a profession or occupation.

17 (cf: P.L.2012, c.71, s.13)

18

19 16. Section 1 of P.L.1974, c.46 (C.45:1-3.1) is amended to read
20 as follows:

21 1. The provisions of this act shall apply to the following boards
22 and commissions: the New Jersey State Board of Accountancy, the
23 New Jersey State Board of Architects, the New Jersey State Board
24 of Cosmetology and Hairstyling, the Board of Examiners of
25 Electrical Contractors, the New Jersey State Board of Dentistry, the
26 State Board of Mortuary Science of New Jersey, the State Board of
27 Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors, the State Board of
28 Marriage and Family Therapy Examiners, the State Board of
29 Medical Examiners, the New Jersey Board of Nursing, the New
30 Jersey State Board of Optometrists, the State Board of Examiners of
31 Ophthalmic Dispensers and Ophthalmic Technicians, the Board of
32 Pharmacy, the State Board of Professional Planners, the State Board
33 of Psychological Examiners, the State Board of Examiners of
34 Master Plumbers, the State Board of Court Reporting, the State
35 Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners, the Radiologic
36 Technology Board of Examiners, the Acupuncture Examining
37 Board, the State Board of Chiropractic Examiners, the State Board
38 of Respiratory Care, the State Real Estate Appraiser Board, the New
39 Jersey Cemetery Board, the State Board of Social Work Examiners,
40 the State Board of Examiners of Heating, Ventilating, Air
41 Conditioning and Refrigeration Contractors, the Elevator, Escalator,
42 and Moving Walkway Mechanics Licensing Board, the State Board
43 of Physical Therapy Examiners, the State Board of
44 Polysomnography, the Orthotics and Prosthetics Board of
45 Examiners, the New Jersey Board of Massage and Bodywork
46 Therapy, the Genetic Counseling Advisory Committee, the State
47 Board of Dietitians/Nutritionists, and any other entity hereafter

1 created under Title 45 to license or otherwise regulate a profession
2 or occupation.

3 (cf: P.L.2012, c.71, s.15)

4

5 17. Section 2 of P.L.1978, c.73 (C.45:1-15) is amended to read
6 as follows:

7 2. The provisions of this act shall apply to the following boards
8 and all professions or occupations regulated by, through or with the
9 advice of those boards: the New Jersey State Board of
10 Accountancy, the New Jersey State Board of Architects, the New
11 Jersey State Board of Cosmetology and Hairstyling, the Board of
12 Examiners of Electrical Contractors, the New Jersey State Board of
13 Dentistry, the State Board of Mortuary Science of New Jersey, the
14 State Board of Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors, the
15 State Board of Marriage and Family Therapy Examiners, the State
16 Board of Medical Examiners, the New Jersey Board of Nursing, the
17 New Jersey State Board of Optometrists, the State Board of
18 Examiners of Ophthalmic Dispensers and Ophthalmic Technicians,
19 the Board of Pharmacy, the State Board of Professional Planners,
20 the State Board of Psychological Examiners, the State Board of
21 Examiners of Master Plumbers, the State Board of Court Reporting,
22 the State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners, the State Board
23 of Chiropractic Examiners, the State Board of Respiratory Care, the
24 State Real Estate Appraiser Board, the State Board of Social Work
25 Examiners, the State Board of Examiners of Heating, Ventilating,
26 Air Conditioning and Refrigeration Contractors, the Elevator,
27 Escalator, and Moving Walkway Mechanics Licensing Board, the
28 State Board of Physical Therapy Examiners, the State Board of
29 Polysomnography, the Professional Counselor Examiners
30 Committee, the New Jersey Cemetery Board, the Orthotics and
31 Prosthetics Board of Examiners, the Occupational Therapy
32 Advisory Council, the Electrologists Advisory Committee, the
33 Acupuncture Advisory Committee, the Alcohol and Drug Counselor
34 Committee, the Athletic Training Advisory Committee, the
35 Certified Psychoanalysts Advisory Committee, the Fire Alarm,
36 Burglar Alarm, and Locksmith Advisory Committee, the Home
37 Inspection Advisory Committee, the Interior Design Examination
38 and Evaluation Committee, the Hearing Aid Dispensers Examining
39 Committee, the Perfusionists Advisory Committee, the Physician
40 Assistant Advisory Committee, the Audiology and Speech-
41 Language Pathology Advisory Committee, the New Jersey Board of
42 Massage and Bodywork Therapy, the Genetic Counseling Advisory
43 Committee, the State Board of Dietitians/Nutritionists, and any
44 other entity hereafter created under Title 45 to license or otherwise
45 regulate a profession or occupation.

46 (cf: P.L.2013, c.253, s.34)

1 18. This act shall take effect immediately, except that sections 8
2 and 13 of this act shall take effect one year after the date of
3 enactment.

4
5
6 STATEMENT

7
8 This bill, which is designated the “Dietitian/Nutritionist
9 Licensing Act,” provides for the licensure of dietitians/nutritionists
10 in this State.

11 The bill establishes a seven-member State Board of
12 Dietitians/Nutritionists (hereinafter referred to as “the board”), in
13 the Division of Consumer Affairs in the Department of Law and
14 Public Safety, to oversee the licensure of individuals practicing
15 dietetics/nutrition, including: four licensed dietitians/nutritionists; a
16 physician; a public member; and a State executive department
17 member. The members of the board are to serve without
18 compensation but be reimbursed for expenses and provided with
19 office and meeting facilities.

20 The bill requires an applicant for licensure as a
21 dietitian/nutritionist to be at least 18 years old and of good moral
22 character, and to meet the following requirements:

23 (1) provide evidence of current registration as a Registered
24 Dietitian by the Commission on Dietetic Registration, or

25 (2) have received a minimum of a baccalaureate degree from a
26 United States regionally accredited college or university with a
27 major course of study in a relevant field and have successfully
28 completed minimum course requirements determined by the board;
29 or in the case of an applicant who has obtained an education outside
30 the United States, have an academic degree validated by the board
31 as being the equivalent thereof; and have successfully completed a
32 planned clinical program in an approved practice of
33 dietetics/nutrition of not less than 1,200 hours under the supervision
34 of a licensed, registered, or certified dietitian/nutritionist, or of a
35 registered dietitian, as approved by the board; and have passed an
36 examination given by the Commission on Dietetic Registration to
37 practice dietetics/nutrition, to be held by the board at least twice a
38 year and which may be administered by a national testing service,
39 as determined by the board; or

40 (3) have received a master’s or doctoral degree in a relevant
41 field of study from a United States regionally accredited college or
42 university and have successfully completed minimum course
43 requirements determined by the board; or in the case of an applicant
44 who has obtained an education outside the United States, have an
45 academic degree validated by the board as being the equivalent
46 thereof; and have a documented supervised experience in the United
47 States in the practice of dietetics/nutrition of not less than 1,200
48 hours under the supervision of a licensed, registered, or certified

1 dietitian/nutritionist, as approved by the board, of a registered
2 dietitian or a licensed physician; and have passed the Commission
3 on Dietetic Registration examination referenced above.

4 The bill prohibits any person from practicing dietetics/nutrition
5 in this State unless that person holds a valid license, but allows
6 exceptions for: persons licensed to practice pursuant to Title 45 of
7 the Revised Statutes who are engaged in the practice or teaching of
8 dietetics or nutrition within the scope of their license or any other
9 persons licensed to practice or certified to teach in this State under
10 any other law who are engaged in the practice or teaching for which
11 they are licensed, regulated, or certified; certain educational
12 purposes; federal government employees, persons serving in the
13 Armed Forces, and employees of any State institution or facility,
14 who are practicing dietetics/nutrition within the scope of their
15 official duties; certain persons who do not hold themselves out to be
16 dietitians/nutritionists while furnishing general nutritional
17 information; and dietetic technicians providing nutrition services
18 under the supervision of a licensed dietitian/nutritionist.

19 For a period of one year after the effective date of the bill, a
20 person who is practicing or residing in the State on the effective
21 date of the bill may qualify as a licensed dietitian/nutritionist if:
22 that person has a baccalaureate or higher academic degree from a
23 United States regionally accredited college or university with a
24 minimum of 30 credit hours or a major concentration of study in a
25 relevant field approved by the board; and has been employed at
26 least half-time as a dietitian/nutritionist for three of the last five
27 years immediately preceding the effective date of the bill.

28 The bill provides for the licensure by the board of nutritionists or
29 dietitians who have been licensed, registered, or certified in another
30 state which has standards substantially equivalent to those of this
31 State.