

[First Reprint]

ASSEMBLY, No. 5059

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

219th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED NOVEMBER 19, 2020

Sponsored by:

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District 37 (Bergen)

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SYNOPSIS

Requires DOH to establish certain nursing education and professional advancement programs.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As reported by the Assembly Health Committee on December 10, 2020, with amendments.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 12/7/2020)

1 AN ACT concerning nursing education and professional
2 advancement and supplementing Title 26 of the Revised Statutes.

3
4 **BE IT ENACTED** *by the Senate and General Assembly of the State*
5 *of New Jersey:*

6
7 1. a. The Department of Health, in consultation with the
8 Association for Professionals in Infection Control and
9 Epidemiology, shall develop an infection prevention course
10 specifically designed for ¹licensed practical nurses and¹ registered
11 nurses employed in a long-term care facility. The Department of
12 Health shall develop methods to encourage and incentivize
13 ¹licensed practical nurses and¹ registered nurses to complete the
14 infection prevention course. The infection prevention course shall
15 include, but shall not be limited to, instruction on the following
16 topics:

17 (1) modes of transmission, incubation periods, host resistance,
18 and susceptibility to various infections and communicable diseases;

19 (2) appropriate measures to prevent the spread of infection;

20 (3) processes used to sterilize, disinfect, and sanitize a health
21 care facility;

22 (4) management and communication skills necessary for the
23 coordination of an effective infection prevention program;

24 (5) regulations which govern infection prevention practice; and

25 (6) criteria for identifying health care associated infections in
26 patients.

27 b. (1) The Department of Health, in consultation with the
28 Board of Nursing, shall review nursing curriculum and develop
29 methods to encourage registered nurses to enroll in ¹education and
30 training on¹ post-acute care ¹**【residency programs】**¹; and

31 (2) The Department of Health, in consultation with the Board of
32 Nursing, shall review the educational and clinical experience
33 requirements for the completion of a nursing degree and determine
34 if the requirements should be modified to better prepare registered
35 nurses to work in post-acute care settings.

36
37 2. a. The Department of Health shall develop an infection
38 prevention course for certified nurse aides. The Department of
39 Health shall include the infection prevention course as a required
40 component of annual in-service education for certified nurse aides.
41 The infection prevention course shall include, but shall not be
42 limited to, instruction on the following topics:

43 (1) modes of transmission, incubation periods, host resistance,
44 and susceptibility to various infections and communicable diseases;

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.

Matter enclosed in superscript numerals has been adopted as follows:

¹Assembly AHE committee amendments adopted December 10, 2020.

- 1 (2) appropriate measures to prevent the spread of infection;
- 2 (3) processes used to sterilize, disinfect, and sanitize a health
- 3 care facility;
- 4 (4) management and communication skills necessary for the
- 5 coordination of an effective infection prevention program;
- 6 (5) regulations which govern infection prevention practice; and
- 7 (6) criteria for identifying health care associated infections in
- 8 patients.

9 b. The Department of Health shall review current certified
10 nurse aide curriculum, incorporate an infection prevention
11 component into the curriculum, and make any other necessary
12 modifications to the curriculum.

13

14 3. The Department of Health, in consultation with one or more
15 long-term care facilities in this State and representatives of labor
16 organizations, shall establish a pilot program to develop standards
17 for the professional advancement of certified nurse aides. The
18 standards for the professional advancement of certified nurse aides
19 may be based on: previous work experience, education level,
20 participation in educational opportunities, training, and work
21 performance. The standards for the professional advancement of
22 certified nurse aides may also be based on any applicable out-of-
23 State models for the professional advancement of certified nurse
24 aides.

25

26 4. The Commissioner of Health shall adopt rules and
27 regulations, in accordance with the "Administrative Procedure Act,"
28 P.L.1968, c.410 (C.52:14B-1 et seq.), as are necessary to effectuate
29 the provisions of this act.

30

31 5. This act shall take effect immediately.