

[Second Reprint]
ASSEMBLY, No. 5059

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
219th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED NOVEMBER 19, 2020

Sponsored by:

Assemblyman HERB CONAWAY, JR.

District 7 (Burlington)

Assemblywoman VALERIE VAINIERI HUTTLE

District 37 (Bergen)

Assemblyman DANIEL R. BENSON

District 14 (Mercer and Middlesex)

Co-Sponsored by:

Assemblywoman McKnight

SYNOPSIS

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

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As reported by the Assembly Appropriations Committee on February 24, 2021, with amendments.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 3/25/2021)

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

26 b. (1) The Department of Health, in consultation with the Board
27 of Nursing, shall review ²the current² nursing curriculum and develop
28 methods to encourage ²licensed practical nurses and² registered nurses
29 to enroll in ¹education and training on¹ post-acute care ¹**residency**
30 **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 if
34 the requirements should be modified to better prepare ²licensed
35 practical nurses and² registered nurses to work in post-acute care
36 settings.

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

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.

²Assembly AAP committee amendments adopted February 24, 2021.

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

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

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

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

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

9 (6) criteria for identifying health care associated infections in
10 patients.

11 b. The Department of Health shall review ²~~the~~² current certified
12 nurse aide curriculum, incorporate an infection prevention component
13 into the curriculum, and make any other necessary modifications to the
14 curriculum.

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

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

32
33 5. This act shall take effect immediately.