

[Third 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)

Senator STEPHEN M. SWEENEY

District 3 (Cumberland, Gloucester and Salem)

Senator JOSEPH F. VITALE

District 19 (Middlesex)

Co-Sponsored by:

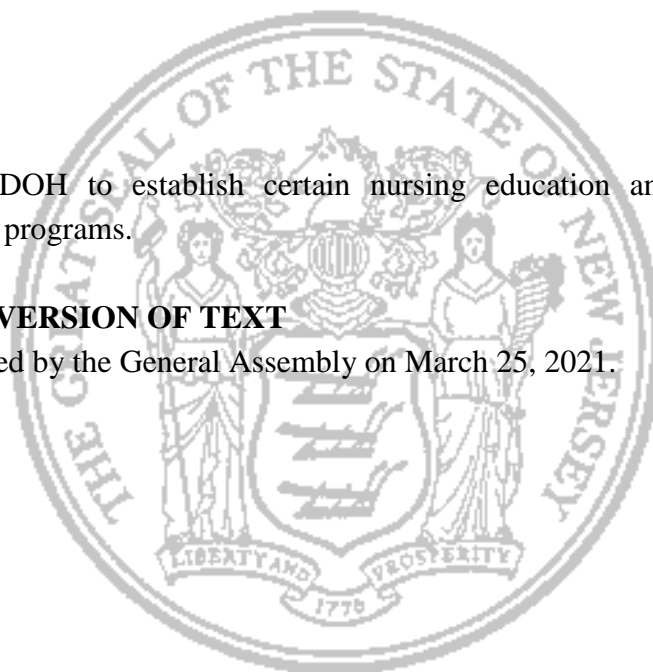
**Assemblywomen McKnight, Jimenez, Assemblyman Armato,
Assemblywomen Jasey, Downey, Assemblyman Tully, Assemblywoman
Swain, Senators Pou and Weinberg**

SYNOPSIS

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

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As amended by the General Assembly on March 25, 2021.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 6/3/2021)

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 ³**[**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 programs¹**]**; 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.³

37
38 ³**[**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.

³Assembly floor amendments adopted March 25, 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 ²the² 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. ³

15
16 ³1. a. The Board of Nursing shall review the current nursing
17 curriculum and education and clinical experience requirements for
18 the completion of a nursing degree and make or recommend such
19 modifications as the board deems appropriate to incorporate, as part
20 of such requirements, the Nursing Home Infection Preventionist
21 Training Course, or any successor course, offered through the
22 federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

23 b. The Board of Nursing shall review the current nursing
24 curriculum and make or recommend such modifications as the
25 board deems appropriate to ensure that licensed practical nurses and
26 registered nurses receive adequate training on post-acute care. ³

27
28 ³2. The Department of Health shall review the current
29 education and clinical experience requirements for the certification
30 and professional advancement of certified nurse aides and make or
31 recommend such modifications as the department deems
32 appropriate to incorporate, as part of such requirements, the
33 appropriate portions of the Nursing Home Infection Preventionist
34 Training Course, or any successor course, offered through the
35 federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, or a similar
36 course offered through the Association for Professionals in
37 Infection Control and Epidemiology with respect to infection
38 control or prevention in long-term care facilities, and any additional
39 or supplemental modules or courses as the department deems
40 appropriate. ³

41
42 3. The Department of Health, in consultation with one or more
43 long-term care facilities in this State ³, or a representative thereof, ³
44 and representatives of labor organizations, shall establish a pilot

1 program to develop standards ³or identify a model that contains
2 standards³ for the professional advancement of certified nurse
3 aides. The standards for the professional advancement of certified
4 nurse aides may be based on: previous work experience, education
5 level, participation in educational opportunities, training, and work
6 performance. The standards for the professional advancement of
7 certified nurse aides may also be based on any applicable out-of-
8 State models for the professional advancement of certified nurse
9 aides.

10

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

15

16 5. This act shall take effect ³**【immediately】** on the first day of
17 the sixth month next following the date of enactment³ .