

Stricken language would be deleted from and underlined language would be added to the law as it existed prior to this session of the General Assembly.

1 State of Arkansas
2 84th General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 2003
4

As Engrossed: S1/16/03 S1/29/03

A Bill

SENATE BILL 2

5 By: Senator Gullett
6 By: Representatives Dees, Lendall
7
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For An Act To Be Entitled

10 AN ACT TO ESTABLISH THE ARKANSAS LEGISLATIVE
11 COMMISSION ON NURSING.

Subtitle

14 TO ESTABLISH THE ARKANSAS LEGISLATIVE
15 COMMISSION ON NURSING.
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18 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:
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SECTION 1. Purpose.

21 The purposes of this act are:

22 (1) To study the status of the nursing and nurse educator shortage in
23 Arkansas and the economic impact of these shortages on the healthcare
24 industry;

25 (2) To project the need for nurses and nurse educators in the state
26 over the next ten (10) years;

27 (3) To develop a strategic statewide plan to ensure an appropriately
28 prepared nursing and nurse educator workforce;

29 (4) To convene stakeholders from nursing education, the healthcare
30 industry, business, the legislature, and the public; and

31 (5) To enhance and promote recruitment, retention, advancement,
32 recognition, reward, and renewal activities for nurses in Arkansas.
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SECTION 2. Arkansas Legislative Commission on Nursing.

35 (a)(1) There is established the Arkansas Legislative Commission on
36 Nursing to be composed of the following voting members:



1 (A) Two (2) members of the House Interim Committee on
2 Public Health, Welfare, and Labor appointed by the Chair of the committee;

3 (B) Two (2) members of the Senate Interim Committee on
4 Public Health, Welfare, and Labor appointed by the Chair of the committee;

5 (C) One (1) member of the House Interim Committee on
6 Education appointed by the Chair of the committee; and

7 (D) One (1) member of the Senate Interim Committee on
8 Education appointed by the Chair of the committee; and

9 (2) The following nonvoting members:

10 (A) The President, or the President's designee, and the
11 Executive Director of the Arkansas Nurses Association;

12 (B) The President of the Arkansas Nursing Students
13 Association or a designee;

14 (C) The President and the Executive Director of the State
15 Board of Nursing;

16 (D) The President of the Arkansas Organization of Nurse
17 Executives or a designee;

18 (E) The President of the Little Rock Black Nurses
19 Association or a designee;

20 (F) The President of the Public Health Nurses Association
21 or a designee;

22 (G) The President of the Licensed Practical Nurses
23 Association or a designee;

24 (H) The President of the Nurse Administrators of Nursing
25 Education Programs or a designee;

26 (I) The President of the Arkansas Hospital Association or
27 a designee;

28 (J) The President of the Arkansas Medical Society or a
29 designee;

30 (K) The President of the Arkansas Healthcare Association
31 or a designee;

32 (L) The President of the HomeCare Association of Arkansas
33 or a designee;

34 (M) The President of the Arkansas State Chamber of
35 Commerce and Associated Industries of Arkansas and two (2) persons appointed
36 by the president;

1 (N) The President of the Arkansas Farm Bureau Federation
2 or a designee;

3 (O) The President, or the President's designee, of the Arkansas
4 Association of Nurse Anesthetists; and

5 (P) Two (2) members appointed by the Governor, one (1) of whom
6 shall represent consumers.

7 (b) The commission shall:

8 (1) Receive staff and clerical support from the Legislative
9 Council; and

10 (2) Report its findings and strategic plan for meeting the
11 nursing workforce needs of the state to the Legislative Council by November
12 1, 2004.

13 (c) The commission shall expire on June 30, 2005.

14 (d) Legislator members shall be entitled to reimbursement for expenses
15 and per diem at the same rate and from the same source as provided by law for
16 members of the General Assembly attending meetings of interim committees.

17 (e) The commission shall select a chairperson from its voting
18 membership.

19 (f)(1) A majority of the voting membership of the commission shall
20 constitute a quorum.

21 (2) A majority vote of those voting members present shall be
22 required for any action of the commission.

23 (g) Vacancies on the commission due to death, resignation, or other
24 causes shall be filled in the same manner as is provided in this act for
25 initial appointments.

26 (h) Commission meetings shall be held in Pulaski County, Arkansas.

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28 SECTION 3. EMERGENCY CLAUSE. It is found and determined by the
29 General Assembly that the Arkansas Legislative Commission on Nursing created
30 by Act 1465 of 2001 expires June 30, 2003; that its work should continue for
31 another biennium; and that unless this emergency clause is adopted there will
32 be a gap in its work effort and its momentum might be lost. Therefore, an
33 emergency is declared to exist and this act being necessary for the
34 preservation of the public peace, health and safety shall become effective on
35 July 1, 2003.

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/s/ Gullett