

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 83rd General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 2001
4

As Engrossed: S3/28/01

A Bill

HOUSE BILL 2168

5 By: Representatives Bond, *M. Steele, Altes, Bennett, Biggs, Bledsoe, Creekmore, Dees, Eason, Goss,*
6 *Haak, Judy, Lendall, Minton, Pritchard, Rackley, Rodgers, Scrimshire, Trammell, Womack, Milum,*
7 *Teague, Green, Glover, Borhauer*
8 By: Senators Gullett, *B. Walker, Fitch, Bisbee, Critcher, P. Malone, Horn*
9

For An Act To Be Entitled

10 AN ACT TO ESTABLISH AN ARKANSAS LEGISLATIVE
11 COMMISSION ON NURSING; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.
12

Subtitle

13 AN ACT TO ESTABLISH AN ARKANSAS
14 LEGISLATIVE COMMISSION ON NURSING.
15

16 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:
17

SECTION 1. Purpose.

18 The purposes of this act are:

19 (1) To study the status of the nursing and nurse educator shortage in
20 Arkansas and the economic impact of these shortages on the healthcare
21 industry;

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

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

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

28 (5) To enhance and promote recruitment, retention, advancement,
29 recognition, reward, and renewal activities for nurses in Arkansas.
30

SECTION 2. Arkansas Legislative Commission on Nursing.

31
32
33
34
35
36

1 (a) There is established the Arkansas Legislative Commission on
2 Nursing to be composed of:

3 (1) The President of the Arkansas Nurses Association or a
4 designee;

5 (2) The President of the Arkansas Nursing Students Association
6 or a designee;

7 (3) The *President* of the State Board of Nursing or a designee;

8 (4) The President of the Arkansas Organization of Nurse
9 Executives or a designee;

10 (5) The President of the Little Rock Black Nurses Association or
11 a designee;

12 (6) The President of the Public Health Nurses Association or a
13 designee;

14 (7) The President of the Licensed Practical Nurses Association
15 or a designee;

16 (8) The President of the Nurse Administrators of Nursing
17 Education Programs or a designee;

18 (9) The President of the Arkansas Hospital Association or a
19 designee;

20 (10) The President of the Arkansas Medical Society or a
21 designee;

22 (11) The President of the Arkansas Healthcare Association or a
23 designee;

24 (12) The President of the American Insurance Association or a
25 designee;

26 (13) The President of the HomeCare Association of Arkansas or a
27 designee;

28 (14) The President of the Arkansas State Chamber of Commerce and
29 Associated Industries of Arkansas or a designee;

30 (15) The President of the Arkansas Bankers Association or a
31 designee;

32 (16) The President of the Arkansas Farm Bureau Federation or a
33 designee;

34 (17) Two (2) members of the House Interim Committee on Public
35 Health, Welfare, and Labor;

36 (18) Two (2) members of the Senate Interim Committee on Public

1 Health, Welfare, and Labor;

2 (19) One (1) member appointed by the Governor;

3 (20) One (1) member appointed by the Governor to represent
4 consumers; and

5 (21) One (1) Nurse Executive Staffer, ex-officio.

6 (b) The commission shall:

7 (1) Commence work on July 1, 2001;

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

10 (3) Report its findings and strategic plan for meeting the
11 nursing workforce needs of the state to the Legislative Council by November
12 1, 2002; and

13 (4) Report at least quarterly to the House and Senate Interim
14 Committees on Public Health, Welfare, and Labor.

15 (c) The commission shall expire on June 30, 2003 unless legislative
16 action directs otherwise.

17 (d) The members of the commission may receive expense reimbursement as
18 follows:

19 (1) The members of the commission representing state agencies
20 shall receive no additional salary or per diem for services as a member of
21 the commission but may receive expense reimbursement in accordance with § 25-
22 16-902;

23 (2) Legislator members shall be entitled to reimbursement for
24 expenses and per diem at the same rate and from the same source as provided
25 by law for members of the General Assembly attending meetings of interim
26 committees; and

27 (3) The other members may receive expense reimbursement in
28 accordance with § 25-16-902.

29 (e) The committee shall select a chairperson from its membership

30 (f) The members of the commission shall hold the first meeting, in
31 offices made available by the Department of Health, within thirty (30) days
32 of the appointment of the members by the Governor.

33 (g)(1) A majority of the membership of the Commission shall constitute
34 a quorum.

35 (2) A majority vote of those members present shall be required
36 for any action of the board.

1 (h) The members of the commission may be removed by the Governor for
2 cause.

3 (i) Vacancies on the commission due to death, resignation, removal, or
4 other causes shall be filled by appointment by the Governor for the unexpired
5 portion of the term thereof in the same manner as is provided in this section
6 for initial appointments.

7
8 SECTION 3. EMERGENCY CLAUSE. It is found and determined by the
9 General Assembly that the Arkansas Legislative Commission on Nursing expires
10 June 30, 2003; that the commission must report to the Legislative Council by
11 November 1, 2002; that in order to complete all its assigned task the
12 commission must begin work by July 1, 2001. Therefore, an emergency is
13 declared to exist and this act being immediately necessary for the
14 preservation of the public peace, health and safety shall become effective on
15 July 1, 2001.

16
17
18 /s/ Bond
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28
29
30
31
32
33
34
35
36