

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 85th General Assembly  
3 Regular Session, 2005

# A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1735

4  
5 By: Representatives Goss, Borhauer, S. Prater  
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## For An Act To Be Entitled

8  
9 AN ACT TO PROVIDE FOR ADDITIONAL CONSIDERATION IN  
10 COLLEGE ADMISSIONS FOR INDIVIDUALS FROM MEDICALLY  
11 UNDERSERVED AREAS WHO ARE INTERESTED IN PURSUING  
12 A NURSING OR OTHER HEALTH CARE CAREER; AND FOR  
13 OTHER PURPOSES.  
14

## Subtitle

15  
16 AN ACT TO PROVIDE FOR ADDITIONAL  
17 CONSIDERATION IN COLLEGE ADMISSIONS FOR  
18 INDIVIDUALS FROM MEDICALLY UNDERSERVED  
19 AREAS WHO ARE INTERESTED IN PURSUING A  
20 NURSING OR OTHER HEALTH CARE CAREER.  
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23 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:  
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25 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code Title 6, Chapter 60, Subchapter 2 is amended  
26 to add an additional section to read as follows:

27 6-60-212. Admissions – Applicants from medically underserved areas.

28 (a) In an effort to address health disparities and the current  
29 shortage of nursing professionals in the state, each board of trustees of a  
30 publicly supported institution of higher education shall establish a program  
31 under which additional consideration in admission to the institution and to  
32 the nursing or health career program is given to an applicant from a rural,  
33 medically underserved area of the state who is interested in pursuing a  
34 nursing or other health care career in a rural, medically underserved area of  
35 the state.

36 (b) The program for additional consideration required under subsection



1 (a) of this section may include, without limitation, the following measures:

2 (1) Early targeting of potential candidates from rural,  
3 medically underserved areas of the state who are interested in nursing and  
4 other health care professions, including junior high school, high school,  
5 two-year college, and four-year college students;

6 (2) Recruitment and guidance of individuals from rural,  
7 medically underserved areas of the state who are interested in pursuing  
8 nursing and other health care professions in rural, medically underserved  
9 areas;

10 (3) Offering programs to prepare identified nursing and other  
11 health career candidates from rural, medically underserved areas of the state  
12 for meeting admission requirements to a postsecondary nursing program,  
13 including, without limitation, preparatory programs offered with the aid of  
14 video and distance learning tools; and

15 (4) Providing that individuals from a rural, medically  
16 underserved area of the state who are interested in a nursing or other health  
17 care profession receive an equal opportunity for success.

18 (c) The Arkansas Board of Higher Education shall provide assistance to  
19 publicly supported institutions of higher education in implementing programs  
20 offered under § 6-60-212.

21 (d) The Board of Higher Education shall report annually to the House  
22 and Senate Interim Committees on Public Health, Welfare and Labor regarding  
23 implementation of this section.

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25 SECTION 2. Arkansas Code Title 17, Chapter 87, Subchapter 4 is amended  
26 to add an additional section to read as follows:

27 17-87-403. Nursing recruitment and admission.

28 The Arkansas State Board of Nursing shall provide assistance to  
29 publicly supported institutions of higher education in implementing programs  
30 offered under § 6-60-212.

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