

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
4

As Engrossed: H3/11/05

A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1735

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

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 AN ACT TO PROVIDE FOR ADDITIONAL
16 CONSIDERATION IN COLLEGE ADMISSIONS FOR
17 INDIVIDUALS FROM MEDICALLY UNDERSERVED
18 AREAS WHO ARE INTERESTED IN PURSUING A
19 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 may 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 under subsection (a) of



1 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) Upon request, the Arkansas Board of Higher Education shall provide
19 assistance to publicly supported institutions of higher education in
20 implementing programs 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 Upon request, the Arkansas State Board of Nursing shall provide
29 assistance to publicly supported institutions of higher education in
30 implementing programs offered under § 6-60-212.

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32 /s/ Goss, et al