

ASSEMBLY, No. 2474

STATE OF NEW JERSEY 222nd LEGISLATURE

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 2026 SESSION

Sponsored by:

Assemblywoman TENNILLE R. MCCOY

District 14 (Mercer and Middlesex)

Co-Sponsored by:

**Assemblywoman Flynn, Assemblyman Scharfenberger and
Assemblywoman Rowan**

SYNOPSIS

Prohibits use of "Nurse" title by unlicensed person.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As reported by the Assembly Regulated Professions Committee with technical review.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 5/14/2026)

1 AN ACT concerning the practice of nursing and amending P.L.1947,
2 c.262 and P.L.1991, c.377.

3
4 **BE IT ENACTED** *by the Senate and General Assembly of the State*
5 *of New Jersey:*

6
7 1. Section 15 of P.L.1947, c.262 (C.45:11-37) is amended to
8 read as follows:

9 15. Violations of the act. It shall be unlawful for any person
10 (including any corporation, partnership, association or individual):

11 a. After September 1, 1956, to practice or offer to practice
12 professional nursing as defined by **[this act]** section 1 of P.L.1947,
13 c.262 (C.45:11-23), unless such person holds an effective,
14 unsuspended license as a registered nurse under **[this act]**
15 P.L.1947, c.262 (C.45:11-23 et seq.); or

16 b. After September 1, 1959, to practice or offer to practice
17 practical nursing or to represent that such person is a practical nurse
18 unless such person holds an effective, unsuspended license as a
19 practical nurse under **[this act]** P.L.1947, c.262 (C.45:11-23 et
20 seq.); or

21 c. To represent in any way that such person is a registered
22 nurse or to use the title "Nurse" or to use after his or her name the
23 abbreviation "R.N." unless such person holds an effective,
24 unsuspended license as a professional nurse under **[this act]**
25 P.L.1947, c.262 (C.45:11-23 et seq.); or

26 d. To represent in any way that such person is licensed as a
27 practical nurse or to use the title "Nurse" or "Licensed Practical
28 Nurse" or to use after his or her name the abbreviation "L.P.N."
29 unless such person holds an effective, unsuspended license as a
30 practical nurse under **[this act]** P.L.1947, c.262 (C.45:11-23 et
31 seq.); or

32 e. To conduct or to represent in any way that such person
33 conducts a school for professional nursing, unless such person holds
34 an effective, unsuspended certificate of accreditation under **[this**
35 **act]** P.L.1947, c.262 (C.45:11-23 et seq.); or

36 f. After January 1, 1950, to conduct or to represent in any way
37 that such person conducts a school for practical nursing unless such
38 person holds the subsisting, unsuspended approval of the board; or

39 g. To obtain or attempt to obtain by fraud a license or renewal
40 thereof or a certificate of accreditation or a renewal thereof under
41 **[this act]** P.L.1947, c.262 (C.45:11-23 et seq.); or

42 h. To represent in any way that such person is authorized to
43 issue a license for the practice of professional nursing or practical
44 nursing or a certificate of accreditation for a school of professional
45 nursing; or

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.

1 i. To transfer, offer to transfer, or permit the use by another of
2 any license issued under **【this act】** P.L.1947, c.262 (C.45:11-23 et
3 seq.); or

4 j. Without the approval of the board, to transfer, offer to
5 transfer, or permit the use by another of a certificate of
6 accreditation issued under **【this act】** P.L.1947, c.262 (C.45:11-23 et
7 seq.); or

8 k. Otherwise to violate any provision of **【this act】** P.L.1947,
9 c.262 (C.45:11-23 et seq.); or

10 l. To aid or abet any person to violate any provision of **【this**
11 **act】** P.L.1947, c.262 (C.45:11-23 et seq.).

12 Every person violating any of the foregoing provisions of this
13 section shall be subject to a penalty of \$200.00 for each violation,
14 and if after conviction as hereinafter provided such person shall
15 again violate any provision of **【this act】** P.L.1947, c.262 (C.45:11-
16 23 et seq.), such person shall be subject to a penalty of \$500.00 for
17 each subsequent offense. A voluntary payment of a penalty for a
18 violation of any provision of **【this act】** P.L.1947, c.262 (C.45:11-23
19 et seq.) shall be deemed to be a conviction rendering such person
20 liable for the greater penalty for subsequent violations, and the
21 continuation of an offense after conviction shall be deemed to be a
22 subsequent offense.

23 (cf: P.L.1957, c.235, s.3)

24

25 2. Section 7 of P.L.1991, c.377 (C.45:11-46) is amended to
26 read as follows:

27 7. a. (1) No person shall practice as an advanced practice
28 nurse or be presented, called or represented as an advanced practice
29 nurse unless certified in accordance with section 8 or 9 of
30 P.L.1991, c.377 (C.45:11-47 or 45:11-48).

31 (2) Nothing in **【this act】** P.L.1991, c.377 (C.45:11-45 et al.)
32 shall be construed to limit, preclude, or otherwise interfere with the
33 practices of other persons licensed by appropriate agencies of the
34 State of New Jersey, provided that such duties are consistent with
35 the accepted standards of the person's profession and the person is
36 not represented as an advanced practice nurse.

37 b. No person shall assume, be represented as, or use the title or
38 designation advanced practice nurse, the title "Nurse," or the
39 abbreviation "A.P.N." or any other title or designation which
40 indicates or implies that the person is an advanced practice nurse
41 unless certified pursuant to section 8 or 9 of P.L.1991, c.377
42 (C.45:11-47 or 45:11-48).

43 c. Whenever the titles or designations "nurse practitioner,"
44 "clinical nurse specialist" or "nurse practitioner/clinical nurse
45 specialist" occur or any reference is made thereto in any law,
46 contract or document, the same shall be deemed to mean or refer to

- 1 the title or designation "advanced practice nurse."
- 2 (cf: P.L.1999, c.85, s.5)
- 3
- 4 3. This act shall take effect immediately.