

[Second Reprint]
SENATE, No. 3031

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
219th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED OCTOBER 19, 2020

Sponsored by:

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District 3 (Cumberland, Gloucester and Salem)

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District 19 (Middlesex)

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SYNOPSIS

Requires DOH to establish certain nursing education and professional advancement programs.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As amended by the Senate on March 25, 2021.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 3/25/2021)

1 AN ACT concerning nursing education and professional
2 advancement and supplementing Title 26 of the Revised Statutes.

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

6
7 ²**[**1. a. The Department of Health, in consultation with the
8 Association for Professionals in Infection Control and
9 Epidemiology, shall develop an infection prevention course
10 specifically designed for ¹licensed practical nurses and¹ registered
11 nurses employed in a long-term care facility. The Department of
12 Health shall develop methods to encourage and incentivize
13 ¹licensed practical nurses and¹ registered nurses to complete the
14 infection prevention course. The infection prevention course shall
15 include, but shall not be limited to, instruction on the following
16 topics:

17 (1) modes of transmission, incubation periods, host resistance,
18 and susceptibility to various infections and communicable diseases;

19 (2) appropriate measures to prevent the spread of infection;

20 (3) processes used to sterilize, disinfect, and sanitize a health
21 care facility;

22 (4) management and communication skills necessary for the
23 coordination of an effective infection prevention program;

24 (5) regulations which govern infection prevention practice; and

25 (6) criteria for identifying health care associated infections in
26 patients.

27 b. (1) The Department of Health, in consultation with the
28 Board of Nursing, shall review ¹the current¹ nursing curriculum and
29 develop methods to encourage ¹licensed practical nurses and¹
30 registered nurses to enroll in ¹education and training on¹ post-acute
31 care ¹**[residency programs]**¹; and

32 (2) The Department of Health, in consultation with the Board of
33 Nursing, shall review the educational and clinical experience
34 requirements for the completion of a nursing degree and determine
35 if the requirements should be modified to better prepare ¹licensed
36 practical nurses and¹ registered nurses to work in post-acute care
37 settings.]²

38
39 ²**[**2. a. The Department of Health shall develop an infection
40 prevention course for certified nurse aides. The Department of
41 Health shall include the infection prevention course as a required
42 component of annual in-service education for certified nurse aides.
43 The infection prevention course shall include, but shall not be
44 limited to, instruction on the following topics:

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.

Matter enclosed in superscript numerals has been adopted as follows:

¹Senate SHH committee amendments adopted January 14, 2021.

²Senate floor amendments adopted March 25, 2021.

- (1) modes of transmission, incubation periods, host resistance, and susceptibility to various infections and communicable diseases;
- (2) appropriate measures to prevent the spread of infection;
- (3) processes used to sterilize, disinfect, and sanitize a health care facility;
- (4) management and communication skills necessary for the coordination of an effective infection prevention program;
- (5) regulations which govern infection prevention practice; and
- (6) criteria for identifying health care associated infections in patients.

b. The Department of Health shall review ¹the current certified nurse aide curriculum, incorporate an infection prevention component into the curriculum, and make any other necessary modifications to the curriculum. ²

²1. a. The Board of Nursing shall review the current nursing curriculum and education and clinical experience requirements for the completion of a nursing degree and make or recommend such modifications as the board deems appropriate to incorporate, as part of such requirements, the Nursing Home Infection Preventionist Training Course, or any successor course, offered through the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

b. The Board of Nursing shall review the current nursing curriculum and make or recommend such modifications as the board deems appropriate to ensure that licensed practical nurses and registered nurses receive adequate training on post-acute care.²

²2. The Department of Health shall review the current education and clinical experience requirements for the certification and professional advancement of certified nurse aides and make or recommend such modifications as the department deems appropriate to incorporate, as part of such requirements, the appropriate portions of the Nursing Home Infection Preventionist Training Course, or any successor course, offered through the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, or a similar course offered through the Association for Professionals in Infection Control and Epidemiology with respect to infection control or prevention in long-term care facilities, and any additional or supplemental modules or courses as the department deems appropriate.²

3. The Department of Health, in consultation with one or more long-term care facilities in this State ², or a representative thereof,² and representatives of labor organizations, shall establish a pilot program to develop standards ²or identify a model that contains standards² for the professional advancement of certified nurse aides. The standards for the professional advancement of certified

1 nurse aides may be based on: previous work experience, education
2 level, participation in educational opportunities, training, and work
3 performance. The standards for the professional advancement of
4 certified nurse aides may also be based on any applicable out-of-
5 State models for the professional advancement of certified nurse
6 aides.

7
8 4. The Commissioner of Health shall adopt rules and
9 regulations, in accordance with the “Administrative Procedure Act,”
10 P.L.1968, c.410 (C.52:14B-1 et seq.), as are necessary to effectuate
11 the provisions of this act.

12
13 5. This act shall take effect ²**[immediately]** on the first day of
14 the sixth month next following the date of enactment² .