

IN THE SENATE

SENATE BILL NO. 1261

BY HEALTH AND WELFARE COMMITTEE

AN ACT

RELATING TO NURSES; AMENDING SECTION 54-1404, IDAHO CODE, TO PROVIDE THAT THE BOARD OF NURSING SHALL HAVE THE POWER AND DUTY TO EVALUATE AND DEVELOP, OR TO ENTER INTO CONTRACTS OR AGREEMENTS WITH OTHERS TO EVALUATE AND DEVELOP, THE EDUCATION, DISTRIBUTION AND AVAILABILITY OF THE NURSING WORKFORCE FOR THE PURPOSE OF IMPROVING THE DELIVERY OF QUALITY HEALTH CARE AND TO MAKE A TECHNICAL CORRECTION.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Idaho:

SECTION 1. That Section 54-1404, Idaho Code, be, and the same is hereby amended to read as follows:

54-1404. BOARD OF NURSING -- POWERS AND DUTIES. The board shall have all powers and duties necessary and incident to regulation of nursing and to enforcement of this chapter, including, but not limited to, the power and duty:

(1) To regulate individuals designated as certified medication assistants.

(2) To license qualified persons for practice of nursing in Idaho; to renew licenses; to limit, restrict, amend, deny, suspend or revoke licenses; and to accept the voluntary surrender of a license;

(3) To establish standards, criteria, conditions and requirements for licensure and to investigate and determine eligibility and qualifications for licensure, and to administer examinations for licensure;

(4) To establish standards of conduct and practice and to regulate the use of titles, abbreviations and designations for the practice of nursing;

(5) To establish standards, criteria, and requirements for curricula for nursing education programs and to evaluate, survey, review and approve nursing education programs subject to the provisions of section 54-1406, Idaho Code;

(6) To evaluate continuing competency of persons licensed pursuant to this chapter and to develop standards which will advance the competency of licensees in accordance with developing scientific understanding and methods relating to the practice of nursing;

(7) To receive and collect license and renewal fees assessed pursuant to this chapter and to assess, receive and collect additional reasonable fees for the administration of examinations, investigations and evaluations of applicants, issuance of temporary licenses, duplication and verification of records, surveying and evaluating nursing education programs, and administrative fines not to exceed one hundred dollars (\$100) for each count or separate offense of practicing nursing without current licensure, to be deposited in the state board of nursing account in the manner provided by this chapter;

1       (8) To employ personnel necessary to administer this chapter and rules  
2 promulgated pursuant to this chapter and perform such other duties as the  
3 board may require. Such personnel shall include an executive director, who  
4 shall be currently licensed to practice professional nursing in Idaho and  
5 who shall not be a member of the board;

6       (9) To maintain a record of board proceedings, annually report to the  
7 governor and maintain a public register of names and addresses of licensed  
8 nurses;

9       (10) To enter into interstate compacts, contracts or agreements to fa-  
10 cilitate the practice and regulation of nursing in this state;

11       (11) To evaluate and develop, or to enter into contracts or agreements  
12 with others to evaluate and develop, the education, distribution and avail-  
13 ability of the nursing workforce for the purpose of improving the delivery of  
14 quality health care;

15       (12) To make, adopt and publish rules pursuant to chapter 52, title 67,  
16 Idaho Code, as may be necessary or appropriate to carry out the provisions  
17 and purposes of this chapter.