

By: Darby

H.B. No. 3078

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the creation of an advisory committee to recommend a uniform pre-nursing curriculum for undergraduate professional nursing programs offered by public institutions of higher education.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1. Subchapter B, Chapter 61, Education Code, is amended by adding Section 61.0261 to read as follows:

Sec. 61.0261. UNIFORM PRE-NURSING CURRICULUM ADVISORY COMMITTEE. (a) In this section:

(1) "Pre-nursing curriculum" means a curriculum designed to prepare students for enrollment in an undergraduate professional nursing program.

(2) "Undergraduate professional nursing program" means an educational program for preparing students for initial licensure as registered nurses.

(b) The Uniform Pre-Nursing Curriculum Advisory Committee is created to develop and make recommendations on a uniform pre-nursing curriculum for undergraduate professional nursing programs offered by institutions of higher education. The advisory committee consists of at least nine members as follows:

(1) the commissioner of higher education or the commissioner's designee;

(2) the executive director of the Texas Board of

1 Nursing or the executive director's designee;

2 (3) a representative of the Texas Nurses Association,
3 appointed by the board; and

4 (4) a representative from the undergraduate
5 professional nursing programs offered by at least six institutions
6 of higher education, appointed by the board.

7 (c) The members of the advisory committee may not receive
8 compensation for their service.

9 (d) The advisory committee shall develop and make
10 recommendations on a uniform pre-nursing curriculum to serve as the
11 prerequisite for gaining admission to each undergraduate
12 professional nursing program offered by an institution of higher
13 education. The uniform curriculum must specify the course content
14 for the first 60 semester credit hours a student must take before
15 gaining admission to an undergraduate professional nursing
16 program.

17 (e) Not later than September 1, 2016, the advisory committee
18 shall prepare and submit a report containing the committee's
19 recommended uniform pre-nursing curriculum to the legislature and
20 to each standing legislative committee with primary jurisdiction
21 over higher education.

22 (f) This section expires January 1, 2017.

23 SECTION 2. Not later than January 1, 2016, the Texas Higher
24 Education Coordinating Board shall make the appointments to the
25 Uniform Pre-Nursing Curriculum Advisory Committee required under
26 Section 61.0261(b), Education Code, as added by this Act.

27 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives

H.B. No. 3078

1 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
2 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
3 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
4 Act takes effect September 1, 2015.