

SB 584

FILED

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WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE
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REGULAR SESSION, 2010

WEST VIRGINIA
SECRETARY OF STATE

ENROLLED

Senate Bill No. 584

(By SENATORS BOWMAN AND CHAFIN)

[Passed March 10, 2010; in effect ninety days from passage.]

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AN ACT to amend and reenact §30-7B-4 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to the West Virginia Center for Nursing; detailing the center's data collection responsibilities and establishing that data submitted to the center is confidential; and deleting a statutory provision regarding establishment of a loan repayment program.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:

That §30-7B-4 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, be amended and reenacted to read as follows:

ARTICLE 7B. CENTER FOR NURSING.

§30-7B-4. Center's powers and duties.

1 The West Virginia Center for Nursing shall have the
2 following powers and duties:

3 (1) Establish a statewide strategic plan to address the
4 nursing shortage in West Virginia;

5 (2) Establish and maintain a database of statistical
6 information regarding nursing supply, demand and
7 turnover rates in West Virginia and future projections.

8 (A) The Center will be responsible for collecting data
9 from employers and nurses (LPN, RN, APN) on at least an
10 annual basis. The Center shall collaborate with employers
11 and other state agencies to develop the best method for
12 data collection.

13 (B) The data shall include vacancy rates, annual turn-
14 over rate and information about hard to fill vacancies for
15 all levels of nurses.

16 (C) As used in this article the term:

17 (i) "Vacancy rate" shall mean the number of vacant
18 budgeted nursing positions divided by the total number of
19 budgeted nursing positions at a point in time;

20 (ii) "Annual turnover rate" shall mean the number of
21 nurses who leave an organization in a year divided by the
22 average number of nurses employed in that year;

23 (iii) "Hard to fill vacancy" shall mean recruitment
24 difficulties experienced, due to a number of reasons
25 including, but not limited to, lack of applicants, applicants
26 that lack the proper qualifications, competition, and
27 undesirable hours.

28 (D) Employers of nurses who are surveyed shall be
29 required to provide data annually by the deadline estab-
30 lished by the Center.

31 (E) Data shall be reported by the center in aggregate
32 form by workforce region.

33 (F) Data shall be used by the Center to strategically plan
34 for recruitment and retention initiatives by region.

35 (G) Data received under this section that contains
36 information identifying specific patients or health care
37 facilities is confidential, is not subject to disclosure and
38 may not be released unless all identifying information is
39 removed.

40 (3) Coordinate communication between the organiza-
41 tions that represent nurses, health care providers, busi-
42 nesses, consumers, legislators and educators;

43 (4) Enhance and promote recruitment and retention of
44 nurses by creating reward, recognition and renewal
45 programs;

46 (5) Promote media and positive image building efforts
47 for nursing, including establishing a statewide media
48 campaign to recruit students of all ages and backgrounds
49 to the various nursing programs throughout West Virginia;

50 (6) Promote nursing careers through educational and
51 scholarship programs, programs directed at nontraditional
52 students and other workforce initiatives;

53 (7) Explore solutions to improve working environments
54 for nurses to foster recruitment and retention;

55 (8) Explore and establish scholarship programs designed
56 to benefit nurses who remain in West Virginia after
57 graduation and work in hospitals and other health care
58 institutions;

59 (9) Establish grants and other programs to provide
60 financial incentives for employers to encourage and assist
61 with nursing education, internships and residency pro-
62 grams;

63 (10) Develop incentive and training programs for long-
64 term care facilities and other health care institutions to
65 use self-assessment tools documented to correlate with
66 nurse retention, such as the magnet hospital program;

67 (11) Explore and evaluate the use of year-round day,
68 evening and weekend nursing training and education
69 programs;

70 (12) Establish a statewide hotline and website for
71 information about the Center and its mission and nursing
72 careers and educational opportunities in West Virginia;

73 (13) Evaluate capacity for expansion of nursing pro-
74 grams, including the availability of faculty, clinical
75 laboratories, computers and software, library holdings and
76 supplies;

77 (14) Oversee development and implementation of
78 education and matriculation programs for health care
79 providers covering certified nursing assistants, licensed
80 practical nurses, registered professional nurses, advanced
81 nurse practitioners and other advanced degrees;

82 (15) Seek to improve the compensation of all nurses,
83 including nursing educators; and

84 (16) Perform such other activities as needed to alleviate
85 the nursing shortage in West Virginia.

The Joint Committee on Enrolled Bills hereby certifies that the foregoing bill is correctly enrolled.

[Signature]
.....
Chairman Senate Committee

[Signature]
.....
Chairman House Committee

Originated in the Senate.

In effect ninety days from passage.

[Signature]
.....
Clerk of the Senate

[Signature]
.....
Clerk of the House of Delegates

[Signature]
.....
President of the Senate

[Signature]
.....
Speaker House of Delegates

The within *is approved* this the *22nd*
Day of *March*, 2010.

[Signature]
.....
Governor

PRESENTED TO THE
GOVERNOR

MAR 19 2010

Time 4:00 pm