

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 2087 Session of  
2003

INTRODUCED BY VANCE, DAILEY, NAILOR, COY, BUNT, CAPPELLI,  
CORRIGAN, CRAHALLA, CRUZ, GINGRICH, HORSEY, JOSEPHS, KELLER,  
NICKOL, PAYNE, PETRI, ROSS, RUBLEY, TANGRETTI, E. Z. TAYLOR,  
THOMAS, TRUE, WASHINGTON AND WATSON, OCTOBER 14, 2003

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON PROFESSIONAL LICENSURE,  
OCTOBER 14, 2003

AN ACT

1 Amending the act of May 22, 1951 (P.L.317, No.69), entitled, as  
2 amended, "An act relating to the practice of professional  
3 nursing; providing for the licensing of nurses and for the  
4 revocation and suspension of such licenses, subject to  
5 appeal, and for their reinstatement; providing for the  
6 renewal of such licenses; regulating nursing in general;  
7 prescribing penalties and repealing certain laws," providing  
8 for continuing nursing education.

9 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania  
10 hereby enacts as follows:

11 Section 1. The act of May 22, 1951 (P.L.317, No.69), known  
12 as The Professional Nursing Law, is amended by adding a section  
13 to read:

14 Section 12. Continuing Nursing Education.--(a) The Board  
15 shall adopt, promulgate and enforce rules and regulations  
16 consistent with the provisions of this act establishing  
17 requirements of continuing nursing education to be met by  
18 individuals licensed as registered nurses under this act as a  
19 condition for renewal of their licenses. The regulations shall

include any fees necessary for the Board to carry out its responsibilities under this section.

(b) Beginning with the license period designated by regulation, licensees shall be required to attend and complete thirty (30) hours of mandatory continuing education during each two-year license period.

(c) An individual applying for the first time for licensure in this Commonwealth shall be exempted from the continuing education requirement for the biennial renewal period following initial licensure.

(d) (1) The Board may waive all or a portion of the continuing education requirement for biennial renewal for a licensee who shows to the satisfaction of the Board that the licensee was unable to complete the requirements due to serious illness, military service or other demonstrated hardship.

(2) The request shall be made in writing, with appropriate documentation, and shall include a description of circumstances sufficient to show why the licensee is unable to comply with the continuing education requirement.

(3) Waiver requests shall be evaluated by the Board on a case-by-case basis.

(4) The Board shall send the licensee written notification of its approval or denial of a waiver request.

(e) A licensee seeking to reinstate an inactive or lapsed license shall show proof of compliance with the continuing education requirement for the preceding biennium.

(f) All courses, locations, instructors and providers shall be approved by the Board. No credit shall be given for any course in office management.

(g) The Board shall initiate the promulgation of regulations

1 to carry out the provisions of this section within one (1) year  
2 of the effective date of this section.

3       Section 2. This act shall take effect in 60 days.