

1 State of Arkansas
2 90th General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 2015
4

A Bill

SENATE BILL 624

5 By: Senator E. Cheatham
6

For An Act To Be Entitled

8 AN ACT TO AMEND THE LAWS RELATING TO THE ARKANSAS
9 STATE BOARD OF NURSING; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.
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Subtitle

11 TO AMEND THE LAWS RELATING TO THE
12 ARKANSAS STATE BOARD OF NURSING.
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17 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:
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19 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 17-87-201 is amended to read as follows:
20 17-87-201. Creation – Members.

21 (a) There is created the Arkansas State Board of Nursing, to be
22 composed of thirteen (13) members to be appointed by the Governor for terms
23 of four (4) years, subject to confirmation by the Senate.

24 (b)(1) ~~Six (6)~~ Five (5) members shall be registered nurses whose
25 highest level of educational preparation shall be as follows:

26 (A) ~~Two (2) One (1) diploma-school-graduates nursing~~
27 diploma graduate;

28 (B) Two (2) associate degree graduates; and

29 (C) Two (2) baccalaureate degree or postbaccalaureate
30 degree graduates.

31 (2) Each registered nurse member of the board shall have the
32 following qualifications:

33 (A) Be an Arkansas resident;

34 (B) Have at least five (5) years of successful experience
35 as a registered nurse in nursing practice, administration, or teaching;

36 (C) Be licensed in Arkansas as a registered nurse; and



1 (D) Have been employed as a registered nurse for at least
 2 three (3) years immediately preceding appointment, two (2) of which shall
 3 have been in Arkansas.

4 (c)(1) ~~One (1) member~~ Two (2) members shall be a licensed advanced
 5 practice registered ~~nurse~~ nurses.

6 (2) ~~The~~ Each licensed advanced practice registered nurse board
 7 member shall have the following qualifications:

8 (A) Be an Arkansas resident;

9 (B) Have at least five (5) years of experience as an
 10 advanced practice registered nurse;

11 (C) Be licensed in Arkansas as an advanced practice
 12 registered nurse; and

13 (D) Have been actively engaged in nursing for at least
 14 three (3) years immediately preceding appointment, two (2) of which shall
 15 have been in Arkansas; ~~and~~

16 ~~(E) Have a certificate granting prescriptive authority.~~

17 (3) One (1) member who is an advance practice registered nurse
 18 shall hold a certificate granting prescriptive authority.

19 (d)(1) ~~Four (4)~~ Three (3) members shall be licensed practical nurses
 20 or licensed psychiatric technician nurses.

21 (2) Each licensed practical nurse board member or licensed
 22 psychiatric technician nurse board member shall have the following
 23 qualifications:

24 (A) Be an Arkansas resident;

25 (B) Have at least five (5) years of successful experience
 26 as a practical nurse or psychiatric technician nurse or as a teacher in an
 27 educational program to prepare practitioners of nursing;

28 (C) Be licensed in Arkansas as a licensed practical nurse
 29 or licensed psychiatric technician nurse; and

30 (D) Have been employed as a licensed practical nurse or as
 31 a licensed psychiatric technician nurse for at least three (3) years
 32 immediately preceding appointment, two (2) of which shall have been in
 33 Arkansas.

34 (e) One (1) member shall be an at large licensed registered nurse or
 35 licensed practical nurse.

36 (f) At least one (1) member who is a licensed registered nurse or

1 advanced practice registered nurse also shall be a nursing program educator.

2 (g) One (1) member shall be a lay person representing consumers of
3 ~~health care~~ healthcare services.

4 ~~(f)(h)(1)~~ One (1) member ~~of the board shall not be actively engaged in~~
5 ~~or retired from the profession of nursing,~~ shall be sixty (60) years of age
6 or older, and shall be the representative of the elderly.

7 (2) This member shall be appointed from the state at large,
8 subject to confirmation by the Senate, and shall be a full voting member ~~but~~
9 ~~shall not participate in the grading of examinations.~~

10 ~~(g)(i)~~ The consumer representative and the representative of the
11 elderly positions may not be filled by the same person.

12 ~~(h)(j)~~ No A member shall not be appointed to more than two (2)
13 consecutive terms.

14 ~~(i)(k)~~ Board members may receive expense reimbursement and stipends in
15 accordance with § 25-16-901 et seq.

16 ~~(j)(l)~~ The terms of all registered nurse members and advanced practice
17 registered nurse members shall be four (4) years.

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