

SENATE, No. 3939

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

221st LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED DECEMBER 9, 2024

Sponsored by:

Senator ANGELA V. MCKNIGHT

District 31 (Hudson)

SYNOPSIS

Requires New Jersey Board of Nursing to establish Nursing Scribe Program.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



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1 AN ACT concerning a nurse scribe program and supplementing
2 P.L.1947, c.262 (C.45:11-23 et seq.).

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4 **BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State
5 of New Jersey:

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7 1. a. The New Jersey Board of Nursing, in conjunction with
8 schools of nursing approved by the board, shall establish a Nursing
9 Scribe Program. Under the program, the board shall authorize
10 schools of nursing approved by the board to grant academic credit
11 to a nursing student enrolled in the school for the successful
12 completion of a nurse scribe course.

13 b. The board shall promulgate regulations establishing
14 curriculum guidelines for the nurse scribe course. At a minimum,
15 the course shall:

16 (1) provide training and instruction in electronic medical
17 records documentation and unit workflows; medical terminology;
18 the applicable provisions of the federal "Health Insurance Portability
19 and Accountability Act of 1996," Pub.L.104-191; and the principles of
20 medical billing, coding, and reimbursement; and

21 (2) require the student to complete practicum hours, in an
22 amount determined appropriate by the board, providing nurse scribe
23 services.

24 c. As used in this act:

25 "Board" means the New Jersey Board of Nursing.

26 "Nurse scribe services" means the provision of documentation
27 assistance provided to a nurse licensed by the New Jersey Board of
28 Nursing regarding a patient's encounter with the nurse that is
29 consistent with the scope of the nurse's licensure.

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31 2. The New Jersey Board of Nursing shall adopt rules and
32 regulations, pursuant to the "Administrative Procedure Act,"
33 P.L.1968, c.410 (C.52:14B-1 et seq.), to carry out the purposes of
34 this act.

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36 3. The act shall take effect immediately.

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STATEMENT

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41 This bill requires the New Jersey Board of Nursing (board), in
42 conjunction with schools of nursing approved by the board, to
43 establish a Nursing Scribe Program. Under the program, the board
44 is directed to authorize schools of nursing approved by the board to
45 grant academic credit to a nursing student enrolled in the school for
46 the successful completion of a nurse scribe course. At a minimum,
47 the course is to: (1) provide training and instruction in electronic
48 medical records documentation and unit workflows, medical

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1 terminology, the applicable provisions of the federal “Health
2 Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996,” and the
3 principles of medical billing, coding, and reimbursement; and (2)
4 require the student to complete practicum hours, in an amount
5 determined appropriate by the board, providing nurse scribe
6 services

7 The bill defines “nurse scribe services” to mean the provision of
8 documentation assistance provided to a nurse licensed by the New
9 Jersey Board of Nursing regarding a patient's encounter with the
10 nurse that is consistent with the scope of the nurse's licensure.

11 It is the sponsor's belief that the provisions of the bill will help
12 support and grow the workforce of nurses in the State. Under the
13 bill, student nurses will gain valuable experience working alongside
14 experienced professionals in the field, while existing nurses will
15 receive much needed clerical assistance, thereby allowing them to
16 focus more on the clinic aspects of their roles and alleviating some
17 of the workload strain challenging nurses since the COVID-19
18 pandemic.