

1 A bill to be entitled
 2 An act relating to clinical nurse specialists; amending s.
 3 464.0115, F.S.; revising requirements for certification as
 4 a clinical nurse specialist; providing an effective date.

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 6 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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 8 Section 1. Subsections (2) and (3) of section 464.0115,
 9 Florida Statutes, are renumbered as subsections (3) and (4),
 10 respectively, and a new subsection (2) is added to that section
 11 to read:

12 464.0115 Certification of clinical nurse specialists.--

13 (1) Any nurse seeking certification as a clinical nurse
 14 specialist must apply to the department and submit proof that he
 15 or she holds a current license to practice professional nursing,
 16 a master's degree in a clinical nursing specialty, and current
 17 certification in a specialty area as a clinical nurse specialist
 18 from a nationally recognized certifying body as determined by
 19 the board.

20 (2) A clinical nurse specialist may petition the board for
 21 a waiver from the certification requirements of subsection (1)
 22 if the clinical nurse specialist is academically prepared as a
 23 clinical nurse specialist in a specialty area for which no
 24 certification examination exists within the clinical nurse
 25 specialist role. The board may determine that a clinical nurse
 26 specialist must obtain certification in an available specialty
 27 area in lieu of the specific specialty or subspecialty for which
 28 no certification examination exists. The petitioner must be

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29 academically prepared as a clinical nurse specialist in a
30 specific specialty area of clinical nurse specialist practice,
31 have a master's degree in nursing that includes clinical
32 experience in that specialty area, and have 1,000 hours of
33 supervised clinical experience in that specialty area, including
34 a minimum of 500 hours of supervised clinical practice after
35 graduation. The board may grant a nonrenewable certificate for
36 no longer than 12 months for the supervised postgraduate
37 clinical experience. The board may renew a waiver granted under
38 this subsection for 2-year periods provided the clinical nurse
39 specialist continues to be ineligible for certification as a
40 clinical nurse specialist by an organization acceptable to the
41 board.

42 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2008.