

**The Florida Senate**  
**BILL ANALYSIS AND FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT**

(This document is based on the provisions contained in the legislation as of the latest date listed below.)

Prepared By: The Professional Staff of the Health Regulation Committee

BILL: CS/SB 2030

INTRODUCER: Health Regulation Committee and Senator Rich

SUBJECT: The Florida Center for Nursing

DATE: April 15, 2009      REVISED: \_\_\_\_\_

	ANALYST	STAFF DIRECTOR	REFERENCE	ACTION
1.	Munroe	Wilson	HR	Fav/CS
2.			FT	
3.			HA	
4.				
5.				
6.				

**Please see Section VIII. for Additional Information:**

- A. COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE.....  Statement of Substantial Changes
- B. AMENDMENTS.....
  - Technical amendments were recommended
  - Amendments were recommended
  - Significant amendments were recommended

**I. Summary:**

The bill requires the Board of Nursing to provide specified information regarding the Florida Center for Nursing to nurses at licensure renewal. The Board of Nursing must provide the nurse with a summary of the center’s work, a link to the center’s Internet website, and the following statement: “The Florida Center for Nursing’s operating revenues are derived in part from your donation. In order for the Florida Center for Nursing to continue its work on behalf of nurses, please donate.”

This bill amends section 464.0195, Florida Statutes.

**II. Present Situation:**

**Florida Center for Nursing**

In 2001, the Florida Legislature created the Florida Center for Nursing<sup>1</sup> under s. 464.0195, F.S., to address issues of supply and demand for nursing, including issues of recruitment, retention,

<sup>1</sup> For more information about the Florida Center for Nursing, see the center’s website at: <http://www.flcenterfornursing.org/> (Last visited on April 7, 2009).

and utilization of nurse workforce resources. The section provides legislative findings that the center will repay the state's investment by providing an ongoing strategy for the allocation of the state's resources towards nursing. The primary goals of the center are to:

- Develop a strategic statewide plan for nursing manpower in Florida;
- Convene various groups representative of nurses, other health care providers, business and industry, consumers, legislators, and educators to assist the center in fulfilling its mission; and
- Enhance and promote recognition, reward, and renewal activities for nurses in Florida.

### **Practice of Nursing**

Part I of ch. 464, F.S., provides for the regulation of nursing practice by the Board of Nursing within the DOH. The part provides licensure requirements for licensed practical nurses and registered nurses, and certification requirements for advanced registered nurse practitioners and certified nurse specialists, including fees.

Under s. 464.008, F.S., the Board of Nursing may set an application fee no greater than \$150 and an examination fee no greater than \$75 plus the actual cost of the licensure examination for applicants applying for licensure by examination.<sup>2</sup> To sit for the examination, registered nurse and licensed practical nurse applicants pay a \$90 fee, of which \$15 is earmarked to pay for a criminal background check.

The Board of Nursing, pursuant to s. 464.009, F.S., may set a licensure by endorsement fee no greater than \$100 for nursing applicants who are already licensed in another state and who wish to practice in Florida.<sup>3</sup> Applicants for licensure without examination by endorsement pay a \$90 fee, of which \$15 is earmarked to pay for a criminal background check.

The fee for application for a certified nurse specialist certification as provided in s. 464.0115, F.S., is \$75.<sup>4</sup>

In addition, all applicants for initial licensure pay a fee of \$80.<sup>5</sup> Registered nurses or licensed practical nurses renewing their licenses pay an \$80 fee.<sup>6</sup> Advanced registered nurse practitioners renewing their license pay a \$130 fee.<sup>7</sup> Certified nurse specialists renewing their license pay a \$155 fee.<sup>8</sup> All initial or renewal nursing applicants pay an additional \$5 fee for the Nursing Student Loan Forgiveness Trust Fund under s. 1009.66(6), F.S.<sup>9</sup>

---

<sup>2</sup> The Board of Nursing has adopted Rule 64B9-7.001, Florida Administrative Code, and set the application fee at \$90 plus the fee charged by the Department of Law Enforcement for the criminal background check required by s. 464.008(1)(b), F.S.

<sup>3</sup> The Board of Nursing has adopted Rule 64B9-7.001, F.A.C. and set the licensure by endorsement fee at \$90 plus the fee charged by the Department of Law Enforcement for the criminal background check required by s. 464.008(1)(b), F.S.

<sup>4</sup> See Rule 64B9-7.001, F.A.C.

<sup>5</sup> See Rule 64B9-7.001, F.A.C.

<sup>6</sup> *Id.*

<sup>7</sup> *Id.*

<sup>8</sup> *Id.*

<sup>9</sup> See Rule 64B9-7.001, F.A.C.

Nurses applying for an initial license or renewing their license are asked if they want to voluntarily contribute to funding the Florida Center for Nursing. In calendar year 2008, the center received about \$5,000 in voluntary contributions from the nursing licensure process. The center obtained \$450,000 in general revenue funding during fiscal year 2008-2009 and additionally receives some grant funding for special projects.<sup>10</sup>

### **III. Effect of Proposed Changes:**

The bill requires the Board of Nursing to provide specified information regarding the Florida Center for Nursing to nurses at licensure renewal. The Board of Nursing must provide the nurse with a summary of the center's work, a link to the center's Internet website, and the following statement: "The Florida Center for Nursing's operating revenues are derived in part from your donation. In order for the Florida Center for Nursing to continue its work on behalf of nurses, please donate."

The effective date of the bill is July 1, 2009.

### **IV. Constitutional Issues:**

#### **A. Municipality/County Mandates Restrictions:**

The provisions of this bill have no impact on municipalities and the counties under the requirements of Article VII, Section 18 of the Florida Constitution.

#### **B. Public Records/Open Meetings Issues:**

The provisions of this bill have no impact on public records or open meetings issues under the requirements of Article I, Section 24(a) and (b) of the Florida Constitution.

#### **C. Trust Funds Restrictions:**

The provisions of this bill have no impact on the trust fund restrictions under the requirements of Article III, Subsection 19(f) of the Florida Constitution.

### **V. Fiscal Impact Statement:**

#### **A. Tax/Fee Issues:**

None.

#### **B. Private Sector Impact:**

Nurses and health care facilities and programs will benefit from the work of the Florida Center for Nursing.

---

<sup>10</sup> Source: Florida Center for Nursing.

C. Government Sector Impact:

The DOH will be required to modify nursing licensure forms to provide the specified information. The fiscal impact is not yet known, but probably will be minimal.

VI. Technical Deficiencies:

None.

VII. Related Issues:

None.

VIII. Additional Information:

A. Committee Substitute – Statement of Substantial Changes:  
(Summarizing differences between the Committee Substitute and the prior version of the bill.)

**CS by Health Regulation on April 15, 2009:**

Instead of imposing a fee upon initial nursing licensure or licensure renewal, the committee substitute requires the Board of Nursing to provide information on the Florida Center for Nursing to nurses at licensure renewal giving them the opportunity to voluntarily make a donation to the center.

B. Amendments:

None.