

The Florida Senate
HOUSE MESSAGE SUMMARY

Prepared By: The Professional Staff of the Committee on Health Policy

[2014s1036.hms.docx]

BILL: CS/CS/SB 1036

INTRODUCER: Education Committee; Health Policy Committee; and Senator Grimsley

SUBJECT: Nursing Education Programs

DATE: April 29, 2014

I. Amendments Contained in Message:

House Amendment 1 – 788685 (body with title)

II. Summary of Amendments Contained in Message:

House amendment 1:

- Requires a person who fails to take the licensure examination within 6 months after graduation to complete an examination preparatory class that is approved by the Board of Nursing. The bill, as passed by the Senate, required the class after a 1-year delay.
- Prohibits the use of state or federal funds to pay for the prep class.
- Requires the graduate passage rate to be calculated based on first-time test takers who take the examination within 6 months of graduation.
- Requires an approved program to require a graduate who does not take the exam within 6 months of graduation to enroll in a prep class.
- Requires the plan of remediation for a program that is placed on probation to include specific benchmarks to identify progress toward the required passage rate.
- Authorizes the Board of Nursing to extend a program’s probationary period for 1 year if the program is meeting a majority of the benchmarks.
- Extends the implementation study by 5 years to January 30, 2020.

The amendment retains provisions from CS/CS/SB 1036 related to deadlines for programs to become accredited; the definitions of “clinical training” and “practice of practical nursing”; continuing education for nurses with specialty certification; clinical training location; passage rates for students transferring from a closed program; and rulemaking authority of the Board of Nursing.