



628052

LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Senate	.	House
Comm: RCS	.	
03/03/2020	.	
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The Committee on Rules (Harrell) recommended the following:

Senate Amendment (with title amendment)

Delete lines 652 - 701
and insert:

Section 16. Effective upon this act becoming a law,
subsections (8) and (10) of section 464.019, Florida Statutes,
are amended, and paragraph (f) is added to subsection (11) of
that section, to read:

464.019 Approval of nursing education programs.—

(8) RULEMAKING.—The board does not have rulemaking
authority to administer this section, except that the board



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12 shall adopt rules that prescribe the format for submitting
13 program applications under subsection (1) and annual reports
14 under subsection (3), and to administer the documentation of the
15 accreditation of nursing education programs under subsection
16 (11). The board may adopt rules relating to the nursing
17 curriculum, including rules relating to the uses and limitations
18 of simulation technology, and rules relating to the criteria to
19 qualify for an extension of time to meet the accreditation
20 requirements under paragraph (11)(f). The board may not impose
21 any condition or requirement on an educational institution
22 submitting a program application, an approved program, or an
23 accredited program, except as expressly provided in this
24 section.

25 (10) IMPLEMENTATION STUDY.—The Florida Center for Nursing
26 shall study the administration of this section and submit
27 reports to the Governor, the President of the Senate, and the
28 Speaker of the House of Representatives annually by January 30,
29 through January 30, 2025 ~~2020~~. The annual reports shall address
30 the previous academic year; provide data on the measures
31 specified in paragraphs (a) and (b), as such data becomes
32 available; and include an evaluation of such data for purposes
33 of determining whether this section is increasing the
34 availability of nursing education programs and the production of
35 quality nurses. The department and each approved program or
36 accredited program shall comply with requests for data from the
37 Florida Center for Nursing.

38 (a) The Florida Center for Nursing shall evaluate program-
39 specific data for each approved program and accredited program
40 conducted in the state, including, but not limited to:



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- 41 1. The number of programs and student slots available.
- 42 2. The number of student applications submitted, the number
43 of qualified applicants, and the number of students accepted.
- 44 3. The number of program graduates.
- 45 4. Program retention rates of students tracked from program
46 entry to graduation.
- 47 5. Graduate passage rates on the National Council of State
48 Boards of Nursing Licensing Examination.
- 49 6. The number of graduates who become employed as practical
50 or professional nurses in the state.
- 51 (b) The Florida Center for Nursing shall evaluate the
52 board's implementation of the:
- 53 1. Program application approval process, including, but not
54 limited to, the number of program applications submitted under
55 subsection (1), ~~+~~ the number of program applications approved and
56 denied by the board under subsection (2), ~~+~~ the number of denials
57 of program applications reviewed under chapter 120, ~~+~~ and a
58 description of the outcomes of those reviews.
- 59 2. Accountability processes, including, but not limited to,
60 the number of programs on probationary status, the number of
61 approved programs for which the program director is required to
62 appear before the board under subsection (5), the number of
63 approved programs terminated by the board, the number of
64 terminations reviewed under chapter 120, and a description of
65 the outcomes of those reviews.
- 66 (c) The Florida Center for Nursing shall complete an annual
67 assessment of compliance by programs with the accreditation
68 requirements of subsection (11), include in the assessment a
69 determination of the accreditation process status for each



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70 program, and submit the assessment as part of the reports
71 required by this subsection.

72 (11) ACCREDITATION REQUIRED.—

73 (f) To increase the supply of available nurses, it is the
74 intent of the Legislature to accommodate nursing education
75 programs that are in substantial compliance with this
76 subsection. An approved nursing education program may, no sooner
77 than 90 days before the deadline for meeting the accreditation
78 requirements of this subsection, apply to the board for an
79 extension of the accreditation deadline for a period which does
80 not exceed 2 years. An additional extension may not be granted.
81 In order to be eligible for the extension, the approved program
82 must establish that it has a graduate passage rate of 60 percent
83 or higher on the National Council of State Boards of Nursing
84 Licensing Examination for the most recent calendar year and must
85 meet a majority of the board's additional criteria, including,
86 but not limited to, all of the following:

87 1. A student retention rate of 60 percent or higher for the
88 most recent calendar year.

89 2. A graduate work placement rate of 70 percent or higher
90 for the most recent calendar year.

91 3. The program has applied for approval or been approved by
92 an institutional or programmatic accreditor recognized by the
93 United States Department of Education.

94 4. The program is in full compliance with subsections (1)
95 and (3) and paragraph (5) (b).

96 5. The program is not currently in its second year of
97 probationary status under subsection (5).

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99 The applicable deadline under this paragraph is tolled from the
100 date on which an approved program applies for an extension until
101 the date on which the board issues a decision on the requested
102 extension.

103

104 ===== T I T L E A M E N D M E N T =====

105 And the title is amended as follows:

106 Delete lines 59 - 62

107 and insert:

108 464.019, F.S.; authorizing the Board of Nursing to
109 adopt specified rules; extending through 2025 the
110 Florida Center for Nursing's responsibility to study
111 and issue an annual report on the implementation of
112 nursing education programs; providing legislative
113 intent; authorizing certain nursing education programs
114 to apply for an extension for accreditation within a
115 specified timeframe; providing limitations on and
116 eligibility criteria for the extension; providing a
117 tolling provision; amending s. 464.202, F.S.;