## The Florida Senate HOUSE MESSAGE SUMMARY

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

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BILL: CS/HB 1427 (CS/SB 1568)

INTRODUCER: Rep. Griffitts (Senator Brodeur)

SUBJECT: Health Care

DATE: May 2, 2025

## **I.Amendments Contained in Message:**

**House Amendment** — **324221 to Senate Amendment - Barcode** — 621510 (body with title)

## **II.Summary of Amendments Contained in Message:**

The House amendment is a strike-all that replaces the contents of the Senate strike-all with language that amends statutes relating to nursing education. The amendment:

- Establishes new requirements for nursing education programs to be approved by the Board of Nursing, including the adoption of standardized evaluation and admission criteria, a comprehensive exit exam, and a remediation program.
- Allows the Board of Nursing to address adverse actions taken against an approved nursing education program in another U.S. jurisdiction.
- Revises existing accountability measures by reducing the number of years an approved nursing education program can fail to meet statutory requirements before being placed on probation from two years to one year.
- Reduces the length of time a program can spend on probation from up to three years to two years.
- Removes the Board of Nursing's authority to extend the deadline to obtain accreditation for professional nursing education programs.
- Requires the Board to terminate a nursing education program for failing to adhere to the annual reporting requirements.
- Authorizes Department of Health staff to conduct on-site inspections or evaluations of
  nursing education programs during regular hours of operation to assess compliance with
  statutory requirements, and a nursing education program is subject to disciplinary action by
  the Department if the program fails to allow such an inspection or evaluation during
  reasonable hours.
- Requires a nursing program director to be directly responsible for submitting the required annual report to the Board, as well as a written remediation plan in the case of a program that has failed to meet the required NCLEX graduate passage rates. The program director must also certify the accuracy of the program faculty credentials reported to the Board and ensure that the program's average exit examination results are posted on the program's website. A program director's failure to comply with such requirements constitute grounds for discipline against the program director's nursing licensure.