

1                               A bill to be entitled

2       An act relating to human trafficking training for  
3       nursing students; amending s. 464.019, F.S.; revising  
4       nursing education program requirements to include a  
5       course on human trafficking prevention; requiring such  
6       course to meet specified requirements; requiring  
7       students to complete the course before graduation;  
8       requiring the Board of Nursing, in coordination with  
9       the Department of Health, to oversee implementation  
10      and enforcement of the new education requirements;  
11      requiring the board and the department to consult with  
12      certain entities to ensure the course curriculum  
13      remains consistent with certain criteria; providing  
14      applicability; providing an effective date.

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16       WHEREAS, the Legislature finds that human trafficking is a  
17      critical public health crisis and safety issue affecting  
18      thousands of individuals across Florida, and

19       WHEREAS, nurses play a key role in identifying and  
20      assisting victims of human trafficking, as nurses are often  
21      among the first and the last health care providers to interact  
22      with individuals at risk, and

23       WHEREAS, the state has already taken steps to educate  
24      licensed nurses on human trafficking through chapter 2017-23,  
25      Laws of Florida, which requires continuing education on human

26 | trafficking biennially as a condition of licensure renewal for  
27 | nurses, and

28 |       WHEREAS, to expand and strengthen these efforts, the  
29 | Legislature finds that requiring human trafficking training as a  
30 | condition for initial licensure for nurses will ensure that all  
31 | newly licensed nurses in Florida enter the workforce with the  
32 | skills and knowledge to identify and respond to human  
33 | trafficking cases, NOW, THEREFORE,

34 |  
35 | Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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37 |       **Section 1. Paragraph (h) is added to subsection (1) of**  
38 | **section 464.019, Florida Statutes, to read:**

39 |       464.019 Approval of nursing education programs.—

40 |       (1) PROGRAM APPLICATION.—An educational institution that  
41 | wishes to conduct a program in this state for the prelicensure  
42 | education of professional or practical nurses must submit to the  
43 | department a program application and review fee of \$1,000 for  
44 | each prelicensure nursing education program to be offered at the  
45 | institution's main campus, branch campus, or other instructional  
46 | site. The program application must include the legal name of the  
47 | educational institution, the legal name of the nursing education  
48 | program, and, if such institution is accredited, the name of the  
49 | accrediting agency. The application must also document that:

50 |       (h)1. The professional or practical nursing education

51 program requires students to complete a 2-hour course on human  
52 trafficking that meets the requirements of s. 464.013(3)(c) as  
53 part of its core curriculum. The course must be approved by the  
54 board.

55 2. Students must complete the course before graduating  
56 from the program.

57  
58 The board, in coordination with the department, shall oversee  
59 implementation and enforcement of this paragraph and consult  
60 with human trafficking advocacy organizations and local law  
61 enforcement agencies to ensure that the course curriculum  
62 offered by nursing education programs remains consistent with  
63 current laws and best practices and aligns with existing human  
64 trafficking education efforts. This paragraph applies to  
65 students who enroll in a nursing education program on or after  
66 July 1, 2027.

67 **Section 2.** This act shall take effect upon becoming a law.