

VIRGINIA ACTS OF ASSEMBLY -- 2008 SESSION

CHAPTER 373

An Act to amend and reenact § 54.1-3012.1 of the Code of Virginia, relating to nursing workforce information; publication on website.

[H 1003]

Approved March 5, 2008

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That § 54.1-3012.1 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows:

§ 54.1-3012.1. Nursing workforce information.

A. With such funds as are appropriated for this purpose, the Board shall collect, store, and make available nursing workforce information regarding the various categories of nurses certified, licensed or registered under the provisions of this chapter. In addition to appropriated funds, the Board may also accept donations or grants from private sources in addition to any licensure or certification fee to any certified, licensed or registered nurse to carry out the provisions of this section. The information to be collected on nurses shall include, but not be limited to: (i) demographic data; (ii) level of education; (iii) employment status; (iv) employment setting such as in a hospital, physician's office, or nursing home; (v) geographic location of employment; (vi) type of nursing position or area of specialty; and (vii) number of hours worked per week. Such information shall be collected and updated biennially, and shall be ~~made available to interested parties only~~ *published, in aggregate form and in a format accessible to the public, on the Department of Health Professions website.* Information which could identify individual nurses shall not be released in any form or manner.

B. The Board shall promulgate regulations to implement the provisions of this section. Such regulations shall include: (i) the specific number and types of nursing workforce data elements to be collected; (ii) the process by which the information is collected, stored, and made available to interested parties; (iii) provisions to ensure the confidentiality of the data to be collected and to protect the identity of all individuals submitting information; and (iv) other provisions as determined by the Board.