

23103100D

HOUSE BILL NO. 2211

Offered January 11, 2023

Prefiled January 11, 2023

A BILL to amend and reenact § 54.1-3017 of the Code of Virginia, relating to graduates of foreign nursing education programs; licensure requirements.

Patrons—Tran, Bennett-Parker, Hudson and Kory

Referred to Committee on Health, Welfare and Institutions

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That § 54.1-3017 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows:

§ 54.1-3017. Qualifications of applicant for registered nurse's license; examination; graduates of foreign nursing education programs.

A. An applicant for a license to practice professional nursing shall submit evidence satisfactory to the Board that such applicant:

1. Has completed an approved four-year high school course of study or the equivalent as determined by the appropriate educational agency;

2. Has received a diploma or degree from an approved professional nursing education program;

3. Has passed a written examination as required by the Board; and

4. Has committed no acts which are grounds for disciplinary action as set forth in this chapter.

B. The Board shall consider and may accept relevant practical experience and didactic and clinical components of education and training completed by an applicant for licensure as a registered nurse during his service as a member of any branch of the armed forces of the United States as evidence of the satisfaction of the educational requirements for licensure.

C. An applicant who graduated from a nursing education program in a foreign country ~~may~~ *shall* be required to pass the Commission on Graduates of Foreign Nursing Schools Qualifying Examination prior to admission to the examination for licensure in the Commonwealth.

1. *Pass a written examination as required by the Board;*

2. *Pass a language examination that assesses general English proficiency administered by an entity approved by the Board;*

3. *Submit the applicant's education and credentials for evaluation and verification by an entity approved by the Board.*

The Board shall identify at least four approved entities to provide language examinations and at least four approved entities to evaluate and verify credentials earned from a nursing education program in a foreign country. The Board shall make the list of approved entities publicly available on its website.

2. That the Board of Nursing shall seek and consider public input in developing the list of approved entities that that provide language examinations and approved entities that evaluate and verify credentials earned from a nursing education program in a foreign country.

INTRODUCED

HB2211