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HOUSE BILL NO. 253

Offered January 13, 2010

Prefiled January 11, 2010

A BILL to amend and reenact §§ 54.1-3017 and 54.1-3020 of the Code of Virginia, relating to licensure qualifications for registered nurses and practical nurses.

Patrons—Merricks and Marshall, D.W.

Referred to Committee on Health, Welfare and Institutions

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:**1. That §§ 54.1-3017 and 54.1-3020 of the Code of Virginia are 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. An applicant who graduated from a nursing education program in a foreign country may be required to pass the Commission on Graduates of Foreign Nursing Schools Qualifying Examination prior to admission to the examination for licensure in this Commonwealth.

C. An applicant who has served on active duty in the medical corps of any of the armed forces of the United States and who has successfully completed the course of instruction required to qualify him for rating as a medical specialist advanced, medical service technician or advanced hospital corpsman technician, or other equivalent rating in his particular branch of the armed forces, and whose service in the armed forces was under honorable conditions, may submit evidence of such service in a manner prescribed by the Board in lieu of the education requirement contained in subdivision A 2.

§ 54.1-3020. Qualifications of applicant for practical nurse's license.

A. An applicant for a license to practice as a practical nurse shall furnish evidence satisfactory to the Board that the applicant:

1. Has completed two years of high school or its equivalent;

2. Has received a diploma from an approved practical nursing 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. An applicant who has served on active duty in the medical corps of any of the armed forces of the United States and who has successfully completed the course of instruction required to qualify him for rating as a medical specialist advanced, medical service technician, advanced hospital corpsman technician, medical corpsman, medical service specialist or class A hospital corpsman, or other equivalent rating in his particular branch of the armed forces, and whose service in the armed forces was under honorable conditions, may submit evidence of such service in a manner prescribed by the Board in lieu of the education requirement contained in subdivision A 2.

INTRODUCED

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