

conducting evaluations pursuant to RCW 28A.67.065(1). Local school districts shall establish and implement an evaluation program on or before September 1, ~~((1989))~~ 1990, by selecting one of the models approved by the superintendent of public instruction or by adopting an evaluation program pursuant to the bargaining process set forth in chapters 41.56 and 41.59 RCW. Local school districts may adopt an evaluation program which contains criteria and standards in excess of the minimum criteria and standards established by the superintendent of public instruction.

(4) The superintendent of public instruction shall report to the legislature on the progress of the development and field testing of minimum procedural standards and model evaluation programs on or before January 1, 1987, ~~((and))~~ January 1, 1988, and January 1, 1989.

Passed the House February 15, 1988.

Passed the Senate March 6, 1988.

Approved by the Governor March 24, 1988.

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## CHAPTER 242

[Senate Bill No. 6638]

### NURSES CONDITIONAL SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

AN ACT Relating to educational assistance for nurses; adding a new chapter to Title 28B RCW; and creating a new section.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Washington:

**NEW SECTION.** Sec. 1. The legislature finds that significant changes occurring simultaneously in the health care delivery system and the demography of the national population are resulting in a shortage of qualified nursing personnel which has the potential of dramatically reducing the quality of health care in the state of Washington, particularly in long-term care and critical emergent care. One of the more important contributors to this shortage is the fall in enrollment of students wishing to pursue nursing as a career. In today's complex health care environment, a more integrated approach to the delivery of nursing care may provide comprehensive answers to the problem. The legislature finds that encouraging qualified individuals to enter the nursing profession is of paramount importance to the state in reducing this shortage. The legislature urges the health professions, industry, and philanthropic community organizations to join with state government in assuring the success of this program.

**NEW SECTION.** Sec. 2. Unless the context clearly requires otherwise, the definitions in this section apply throughout this chapter.

(1) "Conditional scholarship" means a loan that is forgiven in whole or in part if the recipient renders nursing service as a nurse serving in a nurse shortage area, as defined by the state health coordinating council.

(2) "Institution of higher education" or "institution" means a community college, vocational-technical school, or university in the state of Washington which is accredited by an accrediting association recognized as such by rule of the higher education coordinating board.

(3) "Board" means the higher education coordinating board.

(4) "Eligible student" means a student who has been accepted into a program leading to eligibility for licensure as a licensed practical nurse, or to a program leading to an associate, baccalaureate, or higher degree in nursing or continues satisfactory progress within the program; and has a declared intention to serve in a nurse shortage area upon completion of the educational program.

(5) "Nurse shortage area" means those areas where nurses are in short supply as a result of geographic maldistribution; or specialty areas of nursing, such as geriatrics or critical care, where vacancies exist in serious numbers that jeopardize patient care and pose a threat to the public health and safety. The state health coordinating council shall determine nurse shortage areas in the state guided by federal standards of "health manpower shortage areas."

(6) "Forgiven" or "to forgive" or "forgiveness" means to render nursing service in a nurse shortage area in the state of Washington in lieu of monetary repayment.

(7) "Satisfied" means paid-in-full.

(8) "Participant" means an eligible student who has received a conditional scholarship under this chapter.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 3. The nurses conditional scholarship program is established for students pursuing nursing programs in institutions of higher education. The program shall be administered by the higher education coordinating board in consultation with the state board for community college education. In administering the program, the board shall have the following powers and duties:

(1) Select students to receive conditional scholarships to attend institutions of higher education and the superintendent of public instruction for vocational education, with the assistance of a screening committee;

(2) Adopt rules and guidelines to implement this chapter;

(3) Publicize the program;

(4) Collect and manage repayments from students who do not meet their services obligations under this chapter;

(5) Solicit and accept grants and donations from public and private sources for the program; and

(6) Develop criteria for a contract for service in lieu of the five-year service in a nurse shortage area where appropriate, that may be a combination of service and payment.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 4. The higher education coordinating board shall establish a planning committee to develop criteria for the screening

and selection of recipients of the conditional scholarships. These criteria also may include, for approximately half of the recipients, requirements that those recipients meet the definition of "needy student" under RCW 28B.10.802.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 5. The board may award conditional scholarships to eligible students from the funds appropriated to the board for this purpose, or from any private donations, or any other funds given to the board for this program. The amount of the conditional scholarship awarded an individual shall not exceed three thousand dollars per academic year. Students are eligible to receive conditional scholarships for a maximum of five years while continually enrolled in an approved program.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 6. (1) Participants in the conditional scholarship program incur an obligation to repay the conditional scholarship, with interest, unless they serve for five years in nurse shortage areas of the state of Washington. Nurse shortage areas may include geographical areas as a result of maldistribution, or specialty areas of nursing such as gerontology, critical care, or coronary care.

(2) The terms of the repayment, including deferral of the interest, shall be consistent with the terms of the federal guaranteed loan program.

(3) The period for repayment shall be five years, with payments accruing quarterly commencing nine months from the date the participant completes or discontinues the course of study.

(4) The entire principal and interest of each payment shall be forgiven for each payment period in which the participant serves in a nurse shortage area, as determined by the state health coordinating council, until the entire repayment obligation is satisfied or the borrower ceases to so serve. Should the participant cease to serve in this state before the participant's repayment obligation is completed, payments on the unsatisfied portion of the principal and interest shall begin the next payment period and continue until the remainder of the participant's repayment obligation is satisfied.

(5) The board is responsible for collection of repayments made under this section and shall exercise due diligence in such collection, maintaining all necessary records to ensure that maximum repayments are made. Collection and servicing of repayments under this section shall be pursued using the full extent of the law, including wage garnishment if necessary, and shall be performed by entities approved for such servicing by the Washington student loan guaranty association or its successor agency. The board is responsible to forgive all or parts of such repayments under the criteria established in this section and shall maintain all necessary records of forgiven payments.

(6) Receipts from the payment of principal or interest or any other subsidies to which the board as administrator is entitled, which are paid by or on behalf of participants under this section, shall be deposited with the higher education coordinating board and shall be used to cover the costs of

granting the conditional scholarships, maintaining necessary records, and making collections under subsection (5) of this section. The board shall maintain accurate records of these costs, and all receipts beyond those necessary to pay such costs shall be used to grant conditional scholarships to eligible students.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 7. After consulting with the higher education coordinating board, the governor may transfer the administration of this program to another agency with an appropriate educational mission.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 8. Sections 1 through 7 of this act shall constitute a new chapter in Title 28B RCW.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 9. No conditional scholarships may be granted after June 30, 1994.

Passed the Senate March 7, 1988.

Passed the House March 3, 1988.

Approved by the Governor March 24, 1988.

Filed in Office of Secretary of State March 24, 1988.

## CHAPTER 243

[Substitute House Bill No. 1783]

### NURSING POOLS

AN ACT Relating to nursing pools; reenacting and amending RCW 18.130.040; adding a new chapter to Title 18 RCW; and creating a new section.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Washington:

NEW SECTION. Sec. 1. The legislature intends to protect the public's right to high quality health care by assuring that nursing pools employ, procure or refer competent and qualified nursing personnel, and that such nursing personnel are provided to health care facilities in a way to meet the needs of residents and patients.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 2. Unless the context clearly requires otherwise, the definitions in this section apply throughout this chapter.

(1) "Director" means the director of the department of licensing.

(2) "Health care facility" means a nursing home, hospital, hospice care facility, home health care agency, hospice agency, or other entity for the delivery of health care services.

(3) "Nursing home" means any nursing home facility licensed pursuant to chapter 18.52 RCW.

(4) "Nursing pool" means any person engaged in the business of providing, procuring, or referring health care personnel for temporary employment in health care facilities, such as licensed nurses or practical nurses, and nursing assistants. "Nursing pool" does not include an individual who only engages in providing his or her own services.