

BY: Senator Ruben

AMENDMENTS TO HOUSE BILL NO. 496
(Third Reading File Bill)

AMENDMENT NO. 1

On page 1, in line 4, after “procedures;” insert “requiring the State Board of Nursing and the Board of Physician Quality Assurance to require a certain course on the needs of terminally ill individuals and their families as a condition of license renewal;”; after line 10, insert:

“BY renumbering

Article - Health Occupations
Section 8-312(d) and (e), respectively
to be Section 8-312(e) and (f), respectively
Annotated Code of Maryland
(1994 Replacement Volume and 1998 Supplement)”;

after line 15, insert:

“BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article - Health Occupations
Section 8-312(c)
Annotated Code of Maryland
(1994 Replacement Volume and 1998 Supplement)

BY adding to

Article - Health Occupations
Section 8-312(d)
Annotated Code of Maryland
(1994 Replacement Volume and 1998 Supplement)

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

(Over)

Article - Health Occupations
Section 14-316(d)
Annotated Code of Maryland
(1994 Replacement Volume and 1998 Supplement)
(As enacted by Chapter 430 of the Acts of the General Assembly of 1994)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That Section(s) 8-312(d) and (e), respectively, of Article - Health Occupations of the Annotated Code of Maryland be renumbered to be Section(s) 8-312(e) and (f), respectively.”;

in line 16, strike “1. BE IT” and substitute “2. AND BE IT FURTHER”; and strike beginning with “BY” in line 16 down through “MARYLAND” in line 17.

AMENDMENT NO. 2

On page 4, after line 14, insert:

“Article - Health Occupations

8-312.

(c) Before a license expires, the licensee periodically may renew it for an additional term, if the licensee:

(1) Otherwise is entitled to be licensed;

(2) Pays to the Board:

(i) A renewal fee set by the Board; or

(ii) A renewal fee that is set by the Board if the licensee certifies to the Board that the licensee provides professional services only as a volunteer; and

(3) Submits to the Board:

(i) A renewal application on the form that the Board requires; [and]

(ii) Satisfactory evidence of completion of:

1. 1,000 hours of active nursing practice within the 5-year period immediately preceding the date of renewal;
2. A course of instruction, commonly known as a refresher course, approved by the Board; or
3. A preceptorship program provided by an employer and approved by the Board; AND

(III) SATISFACTORY EVIDENCE OF COMPLIANCE WITH ANY CONTINUING EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS SET UNDER THIS SECTION FOR LICENSE RENEWAL.

(D) (1) IN ADDITION TO ANY OTHER QUALIFICATIONS AND REQUIREMENTS ESTABLISHED BY THE BOARD, THE BOARD MAY ESTABLISH CONTINUING EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS AS A CONDITION TO THE RENEWAL OF LICENSES UNDER THIS SECTION.

(2) (I) AS PART OF THE CONTINUING EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS ESTABLISHED UNDER THIS SECTION, THE BOARD SHALL REQUIRE A COURSE ON THE SPECIAL CARE NEEDS OF TERMINALLY ILL INDIVIDUALS AND THEIR FAMILIES.

(II) THE COURSE SHALL INCLUDE TOPICS RELATED TO:

1. PAIN AND SYMPTOM MANAGEMENT;
2. THE PSYCHO-SOCIAL DYNAMICS OF DEATH;
3. DYING AND BEREAVEMENT; AND
4. HOSPICE CARE.

(d) (1) In addition to any other qualifications and requirements established by the Board, the Board may establish continuing education requirements as a condition to the renewal of licenses under this section.

(2) In establishing these requirements, the Board shall evaluate existing methods, devices, and programs in use among the various medical specialties and other recognized medical groups.

(3) The Board may not establish or enforce these requirements if they would so reduce the number of physicians in a community as to jeopardize the availability of adequate medical care in that community.

(4) (I) AS PART OF THE CONTINUING EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS ESTABLISHED UNDER THIS SUBSECTION, THE BOARD SHALL REQUIRE A COURSE ON THE SPECIAL CARE NEEDS OF TERMINALLY ILL INDIVIDUALS AND THEIR FAMILIES.

(II) THE COURSE SHALL INCLUDE TOPICS RELATED TO:

1. PAIN AND SYMPTOM MANAGEMENT;
2. THE PSYCHO-SOCIAL DYNAMICS OF DEATH;
3. DYING AND BEREAVEMENT; AND
4. HOSPICE CARE.”;

and in lines 15 and 21, strike “2.” and “3.”, respectively, and substitute “3.” and “4.”, respectively.