
By: Senator Young

Introduced and read first time: February 2, 1996

Assigned to: Economic and Environmental Affairs

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Geriatric Nursing Assistants - Training and Certification**

3 FOR the purpose of requiring an individual to meet certain training and certification
4 requirements established by the Secretary of Health and Mental Hygiene before
5 acting as a geriatric nursing assistant; establishing minimum training requirements;
6 defining certain terms; requiring the Secretary to adopt certain regulations; and
7 generally relating to the training and certification of geriatric nursing assistants.

8 BY adding to

9 Article - Health Occupations
10 Section 6.5-101 and 6.5-102 to be under the new title "Title 6.5. Geriatric Nursing
11 Assistants"
12 Annotated Code of Maryland
13 (1994 Replacement Volume and 1995 Supplement)

14 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
15 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

16 **Article - Health Occupations**

17 TITLE 6.5. GERIATRIC NURSING ASSISTANTS.

18 6.5-101.

19 (A) IN THIS SECTION THE FOLLOWING TERMS HAVE THE MEANINGS
20 INDICATED.

21 (B) "GERIATRIC NURSING ASSISTANT" MEANS A NURSES' AIDE, PATIENT
22 CARE TECHNICIAN, ORDERLY, ATTENDANT, OR OTHER SUPPORT PERSONNEL
23 ASSIGNED TO A HEALTH FACILITY TO PERFORM PATIENT CARE TASKS FOR
24 GERIATRIC PATIENTS UNDER THE DIRECTION AND IMMEDIATE SUPERVISION OF A
25 LICENSED NURSE.

26 (C) "HEALTH FACILITY" MEANS:

27 (1) A HOSPITAL, AS DEFINED IN § 19-301 OF THE HEALTH - GENERAL
28 ARTICLE;

2

1 (2) A RELATED INSTITUTION, AS DEFINED IN § 19-301 OF THE HEALTH-
2 GENERAL ARTICLE;

3 (3) AN AMBULATORY SURGICAL FACILITY AS DEFINED IN § 19-101 OF
4 THE HEALTH - GENERAL ARTICLE;

5 (4) AN INPATIENT FACILITY THAT IS ORGANIZED PRIMARILY TO HELP
6 IN THE REHABILITATION OF DISABLED INDIVIDUALS, THROUGH AN INTEGRATED
7 PROGRAM OF MEDICAL AND OTHER SERVICES PROVIDED UNDER COMPETENT
8 PROFESSIONAL SUPERVISION;

9 (5) A HOME HEALTH AGENCY, AS DEFINED IN § 19-401 OF THE HEALTH -
10 GENERAL ARTICLE;

11 (6) A HOSPICE, AS DEFINED IN § 19-901 OF THE HEALTH - GENERAL
12 ARTICLE; AND

13 (7) ANY OTHER HEALTH INSTITUTION, SERVICE, OR PROGRAM FOR
14 WHICH TITLE 19 OF THE HEALTH - GENERAL ARTICLE REQUIRES A CERTIFICATE OF
15 NEED.

16 6.5-102.

17 (A) AN INDIVIDUAL MUST MEET THE TRAINING AND CERTIFICATION
18 REQUIREMENTS ESTABLISHED BY THE SECRETARY BEFORE ACTING AS A
19 GERIATRIC NURSING ASSISTANT IN A HEALTH FACILITY.

20 (B) THE SECRETARY SHALL ADOPT REGULATIONS PRESCRIBING TRAINING
21 AND CERTIFICATION OF GERIATRIC NURSING ASSISTANTS.

22 (C) (1) TRAINING MEETING THE REQUIREMENTS OF SUBSECTION (A) OF
23 THIS SECTION MUST BE IN A PROGRAM APPROVED BY THE SECRETARY.

24 (2) TRAINING SHALL INCLUDE AT LEAST 75 HOURS OF COURSE WORK,
25 HALF OF WHICH SHALL BE CLASSROOM INSTRUCTION AND HALF OF WHICH SHALL
26 BE SUPERVISED CLINICAL EXPERIENCE IN LONG-TERM CARE.

27 (3) THE COURSE CONTENT OF THE PROGRAM SHALL FOLLOW THE
28 CURRICULUM REQUIRED BY THE DEPARTMENT FOR GERIATRIC NURSING
29 ASSISTANTS IN COMPREHENSIVE CARE FACILITIES AND EXTENDED CARE
30 FACILITIES.

31 (D) THE SECRETARY SHALL ADOPT REGULATIONS PROVIDING FOR THE
32 EVALUATION AND CERTIFICATION OF THE COMPETENCY OF GERIATRIC NURSING
33 ASSISTANTS, INCLUDING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A GERIATRIC NURSING
34 ASSISTANT REGISTRY.

35 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
36 October 1, 1996.