

BY: Economic and Environmental Affairs Committee

AMENDMENTS TO SENATE BILL NO. 661

(First Reading File Bill)

AMENDMENT NO. 1

On page 1, in line 3, strike “an individual to be certified by”; in the same line, after “Nursing” insert “by a certain date to regulate nursing assistants who practice in the State;”; strike beginning with “by” in line 4 down through “Act” in line 19 and substitute “requiring the establishment of a certain advisory committee; specifying the composition of the committee and its responsibilities; requiring the State Board of Nursing to make a certain report on or before a certain date”; in line 23, strike “through 8-6A-17, inclusive,”; and strike in their entirety lines 27 through 31, inclusive.

AMENDMENT NO. 2

On page 1, after line 31, insert:

“Preamble

WHEREAS, At the same time the population of the State is aging, the advent of managed care has resulted in numerous changes in the delivery of health care in the State that seek to reduce the cost of health care, including reductions in the length of hospital stays; and

WHEREAS, As a result of these changes, care is being provided in a variety of settings, including the homes of individuals, assisted living facilities, hospitals, and long-term care facilities; and

WHEREAS, Nursing assistants play an important role in providing care in all of these settings; and

WHEREAS, The Federal Omnibus Reconciliation Act of 1987 recognized the benefit of regulating nursing assistants who work in nursing homes by establishing minimal educational requirements and requiring registration of nursing assistants who work in nursing homes; and

(Over)

WHEREAS, Nursing assistants who work in other settings in the State are not currently regulated; and

WHEREAS, Because of the absence of regulation, there is not a central repository for the collection of complaints and investigations of alleged disciplinary problems relating to nursing assistants; now, therefore,.”.

AMENDMENT NO. 3

On pages 2 through 10, strike in their entirety the lines beginning with line 4 on page 2 through line 30 on page 10, inclusive, and substitute:

“(A) AS OF JANUARY 1, 2000, THE BOARD SHALL REGULATE NURSING ASSISTANTS WHO PRACTICE IN THE STATE.

(B) THE BOARD SHALL ESTABLISH AN ADVISORY COMMITTEE TO MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE BOARD RELATING TO:

(1) THE EDUCATION AND TRAINING REQUIREMENTS FOR NURSING ASSISTANTS WHO PRACTICE IN THE STATE;

(2) THE CLINICAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURES FOR THE REGULATION OF NURSING ASSISTANTS; AND

(3) A PLAN FOR THE MOBILITY OF NURSING ASSISTANTS BETWEEN VARIOUS PRACTICE SETTINGS.

(C) THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE SHALL INCLUDE REPRESENTATIVES OF:

(1) NURSING ASSISTANTS;

(2) THE AFFECTED INDUSTRIES, INCLUDING HOSPITALS, LONG-TERM CARE FACILITIES, AND ASSISTED LIVING FACILITIES;

(3) THE DEPARTMENT;

(4) THE MARYLAND HIGHER EDUCATION COMMISSION; AND

(5) ORGANIZATIONS THAT REPRESENT NURSING ASSISTANTS IN THEIR RELATIONS WITH THEIR EMPLOYERS; AND

(6) CONSUMERS OF THE SERVICES PROVIDED BY NURSING ASSISTANTS.

(D) THE BOARD SHALL REPORT TO THE SENATE ECONOMIC AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE AND THE HOUSE ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS COMMITTEE ON OR BEFORE OCTOBER 1, 1998, IN ACCORDANCE WITH § 2-1312 OF THE STATE GOVERNMENT ARTICLE, WITH A PROPOSAL FOR LEGISLATION THAT WOULD PROVIDE FOR THE REGULATION OF NURSING ASSISTANTS IN THE STATE.”;

in line 31, strike “3.” and substitute “2.”; and in lines 31 and 32, strike “, subject to Section 2 of this Act,”.