
By: **Senators Conway and Hollinger**

Introduced and read first time: February 2, 2006

Assigned to: Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

Committee Report: Favorable with amendments

Senate action: Adopted

Read second time: March 22, 2006

CHAPTER _____

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **State Board of Nursing - Nurses, Certified Nursing Assistants, and**
3 **Medication Technicians, and Electrologists - Licensing and Regulation**

4 FOR the purpose of altering the powers and duties of the State Board of Nursing to
5 include setting the standards for the practice of certified nursing assistants and
6 certified medication technicians; authorizing the Rehabilitation Committee in
7 the Board to provide for the rehabilitation of or provide assistance to certain
8 medication technicians, electrologists, and certain applicants; ~~altering the term~~
9 ~~for the renewal of certain requirements for sending renewal notices for certain~~
10 ~~licenses and certificates; authorizing the Board to grant a certain extension to a~~
11 ~~certain licensee or certificate holder for the renewal of a certain license or~~
12 ~~certificate; authorizing the Board to send certain licensees and certificate~~
13 ~~holders a certain advisory letter of education in certain circumstances;~~
14 ~~authorizing the Board to send a certain advisory letter to a certain complainant~~
15 ~~in certain circumstances; authorizing the Board to make a certain letter~~
16 ~~available to the public under certain circumstances; providing that sending a~~
17 ~~certain letter of education or the issuance of a certain advisory letter is not a~~
18 ~~disciplinary act; clarifying that completion of a certain portion of a certain~~
19 ~~nursing education program satisfies a certain qualification standard for~~
20 ~~certification of certain applicants; altering the grounds for which certain~~
21 ~~certificate holders may be disciplined; authorizing the Board to make certain~~
22 ~~unannounced survey visits to certain certified nursing assistant training~~
23 ~~programs and Board-approved medication technician training programs;~~
24 ~~defining a certain term; repealing certain provisions of law relating to an~~
25 ~~electrologist rehabilitation committee; and generally relating to the licensing~~
26 ~~and regulation of nurses, certified nursing assistants, ~~and~~ certified medication~~
27 ~~technicians, and certified electrologists by the State Board of Nursing.~~

1 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
 2 Article - Health Occupations
 3 Section 8-205(a), 8-208(a) and (j) through (p), 8-301, 8-312, 8-317(a), 8-6A-02,
 4 8-6A-05(c)(1), 8-6A-08, 8-6A-10, and 8-6A-14
 5 Annotated Code of Maryland
 6 (2005 Replacement Volume)

7 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
 8 Article - Health Occupations
 9 Section 8-208(b)
 10 Annotated Code of Maryland
 11 (2005 Replacement Volume)

12 BY adding to
 13 Article - Health Occupations
 14 Section ~~8-316.1, 8-6A-10.1, and 8-317(h)~~, 8-6A-14.1, and 8-6B-19(h)
 15 Annotated Code of Maryland
 16 (2005 Replacement Volume)

17 BY repealing
 18 Article - Health Occupations
 19 Section 8-6B-25
 20 Annotated Code of Maryland
 21 (2005 Replacement Volume)

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

24 **Article - Health Occupations**

25 8-205.

26 (a) In addition to the powers and duties set forth elsewhere in this title, the
 27 Board has the following powers and duties:

28 (1) To adopt rules and regulations to carry out the provisions of this title;

29 (2) To set standards for the practice of registered nursing, [and] licensed
 30 practical nursing, CERTIFIED NURSING ASSISTANTS, AND CERTIFIED MEDICATION
 31 TECHNICIANS;

32 (3) To adopt rules and regulations for the performance of delegated
 33 medical functions which are recognized jointly by the State Board of Physicians and
 34 the State Board of Nursing, under § 14-306(d) of this article;

- 1 (4) To adopt rules and regulations for the performance of additional
2 nursing acts that:
- 3 (i) May be performed under any condition authorized by the Board,
4 including emergencies; and
- 5 (ii) Require education and clinical experience;
- 6 (5) To adopt rules and regulations for registered nurses to perform
7 independent nursing functions that:
- 8 (i) Require formal education and clinical experience; and
- 9 (ii) May be performed under any condition authorized by the Board,
10 including emergencies;
- 11 (6) To adopt rules and regulations for licensed practical nurses to
12 perform additional acts in the practice of registered nursing that:
- 13 (i) Require formal education and clinical experience;
- 14 (ii) May be performed under any condition authorized by the Board,
15 including emergencies; and
- 16 (iii) Are recognized by the Nursing Board as proper for licensed
17 practical nurses to perform;
- 18 (7) To keep a record of its proceedings;
- 19 (8) To submit an annual report to the Governor and Secretary;
- 20 (9) To enforce the employment record requirements of this title;
- 21 (10) To keep separate lists, which lists are open to reasonable public
22 inspection, of all:
- 23 (i) Registered nurses licensed under this title;
- 24 (ii) Licensed practical nurses licensed under this title;
- 25 (iii) Nurse midwives certified under this title;
- 26 (iv) Nurse practitioners certified under this title; and
- 27 (v) Other licensees with a nursing specialty that is certified under
28 this title;
- 29 (11) To collect any funds of the Board;
- 30 (12) To report any alleged violation of this title to the State's Attorney of
31 the county where the alleged violation occurred;

1 (13) In accordance with the State budget, to incur any necessary expense
2 for prosecution of an alleged violation of this title;

3 (14) On receipt of a written and signed complaint, including a referral
4 from the Commissioner of Labor and Industry, conduct an unannounced inspection of
5 the office of a nurse in independent practice, other than an office of a nurse in
6 independent practice in a hospital, related institution, freestanding medical facility,
7 or a freestanding birthing center, to determine compliance at that office with the
8 Centers for Disease Control's guidelines on universal precautions; and

9 (15) To maintain a nurse aide registry that complies with federal law.

10 8-208.

11 (a) (1) In this section[,] THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS
12 INDICATED.

13 (2) "APPLICANT" MEANS AN INDIVIDUAL WHO HAS SUBMITTED AN
14 APPLICATION TO THE BOARD TO BE LICENSED AS A REGISTERED NURSE OR
15 LICENSED PRACTICAL NURSE OR AN ELECTROLOGIST OR TO BE CERTIFIED AS A
16 NURSING ASSISTANT OR MEDICATION TECHNICIAN IN THIS STATE.

17 (3) ["program"] "PROGRAM" means the rehabilitation program.

18 (b) (1) There is a Rehabilitation Committee in the Board.

19 (2) The Board may create 1 or more rehabilitation committees.

20 (j) In addition to the powers set forth elsewhere in this subtitle, the
21 Committee may:

22 (1) Evaluate those nurses, [or] nursing assistants, MEDICATION
23 TECHNICIANS, ELECTROLOGISTS, OR APPLICANTS who request participation in the
24 program according to the guidelines prescribed by the Board and consider the
25 recommendations for admission into the program;

26 (2) Review and designate those treatment facilities and services to which
27 nurses, [or] nursing assistants, MEDICATION TECHNICIANS, ELECTROLOGISTS, OR
28 APPLICANTS in the program may be referred;

29 (3) Receive and review information concerning a nurse, [or] nursing
30 assistant, MEDICATION TECHNICIAN, ELECTROLOGIST, OR APPLICANT participating
31 in the program;

32 (4) Consider in the case of each nurse, [or] nursing assistant,
33 MEDICATION TECHNICIAN, ELECTROLOGIST, OR APPLICANT participating in a
34 program whether the nurse, [or] nursing assistant, MEDICATION TECHNICIAN,
35 ELECTROLOGIST, OR APPLICANT may with safety continue or resume the practice of
36 nursing OR DELEGATED NURSING FUNCTIONS OR ELECTROLOGY; and

1 (5) Have meetings as necessary to consider the requests of nurses, [or]
2 nursing assistants, MEDICATION TECHNICIANS, ELECTROLOGISTS, OR APPLICANTS
3 to participate in the program, and consider reports regarding nurses, [or] nursing
4 assistants, MEDICATION TECHNICIANS, ELECTROLOGISTS, OR APPLICANTS
5 participating in the program.

6 (k) In addition to the duties set forth elsewhere in this subtitle, the Committee
7 shall:

8 (1) Prepare reports to be submitted to the Board; and

9 (2) Set forth in writing for each nurse, [or] nursing assistant,
10 MEDICATION TECHNICIAN, ELECTROLOGIST, OR APPLICANT participating in the
11 program a rehabilitation program established for that nurse, [or] nursing assistant,
12 MEDICATION TECHNICIAN, ELECTROLOGIST, OR APPLICANT, including the
13 requirements for supervision and surveillance.

14 (l) The Committee shall inform each nurse, [or] nursing assistant,
15 MEDICATION TECHNICIAN, ELECTROLOGIST, OR APPLICANT who requests
16 participation in the program of:

17 (1) The procedures followed in the program;

18 (2) The rights and responsibilities of the nurse, [or] nursing assistant,
19 MEDICATION TECHNICIAN, ELECTROLOGIST, OR APPLICANT in the program; and

20 (3) The possible results of noncompliance with the program.

21 (m) (1) Each nurse, [or] nursing assistant, MEDICATION TECHNICIAN,
22 ELECTROLOGIST, OR APPLICANT who requests to participate in the program shall
23 agree to cooperate with the individual rehabilitation program designed by the
24 Committee.

25 (2) Any failure to comply with the provisions of a rehabilitation program
26 may result in termination of the nurse's, [or] nursing assistant's, MEDICATION
27 TECHNICIAN'S, ELECTROLOGIST'S, OR APPLICANT'S participation in the program.

28 (3) The Committee shall report the name and license number of a ~~nurse~~,
29 NURSE OR ELECTROLOGIST, [or] the name and certificate number of a nursing
30 assistant ~~OR~~ MEDICATION TECHNICIAN, OR THE NAME OF AN APPLICANT who is
31 expelled from the program for failure to comply with the conditions of the program.

32 (4) (i) The program shall transfer to the Board all the records of any
33 nurse, [or] nursing assistant, MEDICATION TECHNICIAN, ELECTROLOGIST, OR
34 APPLICANT expelled from the program.

35 (ii) The Board may initiate disciplinary action based on the failure
36 of the nurse, [or] nursing assistant, MEDICATION TECHNICIAN, ELECTROLOGIST, OR
37 APPLICANT to comply with the conditions of the program in accordance with the
38 provisions of §§ 8-316 and 8-317 OR §§ 8-6B-18 AND 8-6B-19 of this title.

1 (n) After the Committee has determined that a nurse, [or] nursing assistant,
2 MEDICATION TECHNICIAN, ELECTROLOGIST, OR APPLICANT has been rehabilitated,
3 the Committee shall purge and destroy all records concerning a nurse's, [or] nursing
4 assistant's, MEDICATION TECHNICIAN'S, ELECTROLOGIST'S, OR APPLICANT'S
5 participation in the program.

6 (o) All Board and Committee records of a proceeding concerning the
7 rehabilitation of a nurse, [or] nursing assistant, MEDICATION TECHNICIAN,
8 ELECTROLOGIST, OR APPLICANT in the program are confidential and are not subject
9 to discovery or subpoena in any civil or criminal action.

10 (p) The Board shall provide for the representation of any person making
11 reports to the Committee or the Board under this section in any action for defamation
12 directly resulting from reports or information given to the Committee or the Board
13 regarding a nurse's, [or] nursing assistant's, MEDICATION TECHNICIAN'S,
14 ELECTROLOGIST'S, OR APPLICANT'S participation in the program.

15 8-301.

16 (a) Except as otherwise provided in this title, an individual shall be licensed
17 by the Board before the individual may practice registered nursing in this State.

18 (b) Except as otherwise provided in this title, an individual shall be licensed
19 by the Board before the individual may practice licensed practical nursing in this
20 State.

21 (c) This section does not apply to:

22 (1) A student enrolled in an approved education program while
23 practicing registered nursing or licensed practical nursing in that program;

24 (2) An individual employed by the federal government to practice
25 registered nursing or licensed practical nursing while practicing within the scope of
26 that employment, if the individual is authorized by any state to practice registered
27 nursing or licensed practical nursing;

28 (3) An individual permitted to practice registered nursing or licensed
29 practical nursing under rules and regulations adopted by the Board, if the individual:

30 (i) Otherwise has qualified to practice registered nursing or
31 licensed practical nursing in any other state or country and is in this State
32 temporarily; or

33 (ii) Has an application for a license pending before the Board:

34 1. But has not taken the examination required under this
35 title; or

36 2. Has taken an examination under this title, but the results
37 of the examination are not yet known; and

1 (4) An individual who is assigned by the American Red Cross to a
2 disaster situation in this State to practice registered nursing or licensed practical
3 nursing, if the individual is licensed to practice registered nursing or licensed
4 practical nursing in another state.

5 (d) A registered nurse who has been granted multistate licensing privileges by
6 a party state to the Nurse Multistate Licensure Compact set forth in Subtitle 7A of
7 this title may practice registered nursing in the State.

8 (e) A licensed practical nurse who has been granted multistate licensing
9 privileges by a party state to the Nurse Multistate Licensure Compact set forth in
10 Subtitle 7A of this title may practice practical nursing in the State.

11 [(f) A nurse who has been granted multistate licensing privileges as described
12 in subsection (d) or (e) shall notify the Board, prior to commencing any nursing
13 employment in the State, of the identity and location of the nurse's prospective
14 employer.]

15 8-312.

16 (a) A license expires on the last day of the birth month of the licensee, unless
17 the license is renewed for a 1-year term as provided in this section.

18 (b) At least 1 month before the license expires, the Board shall send to the
19 licensee[, by first-class mail to the last known address of the licensee,] a renewal
20 notice [that states:

21 (1) The date on which the current license expires;

22 (2) The date by which the renewal application must be received by the
23 Board for the renewal to be issued and mailed before the license expires; and

24 (3) The amount of the renewal fee].

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

27 (1) Otherwise is entitled to be licensed;

28 (2) Pays to the Board:

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

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

32 (3) Submits to the Board:

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

34 (ii) Satisfactory evidence of completion of:

1 1. 1,000 hours of active nursing practice within the 5-year
2 period immediately preceding the date of renewal;

3 2. A course of instruction, commonly known as a refresher
4 course, approved by the Board; or

5 3. A preceptorship program provided by an employer and
6 approved by the Board.

7 (d) ~~THE BOARD MAY GRANT A 30-DAY EXTENSION, BEYOND A LICENSE'S~~
8 ~~EXPIRATION DATE, TO A LICENSEE SO THAT A~~ THE LICENSEE MAY RENEW A THE
9 LICENSE BEFORE THE LICENSE IT EXPIRES.

10 (E) (1) Each licensee shall notify the Board in writing of any change in the
11 name or address of the licensee within 60 days after the change occurred.

12 (2) If a licensee fails to notify the Board within the time required under
13 this subsection, subject to the hearing provisions of § 8-317 of this subtitle, the Board
14 may impose an administrative penalty of \$100.

15 [(e)] (F) (1) The Board shall renew the license of each licensee who meets
16 the requirements of this section.

17 (2) A volunteer's license issued under paragraph (c)(2)(ii) of this section
18 shall be clearly designated as a volunteer's license.

19 ~~8-316.1-8-317.~~

20 (a) Except as otherwise provided in the Administrative Procedure Act and in
21 subsection (g) of this section, before the Board takes any action under § 8-312, §
22 8-316, [or] § 8-404, OR § 8-6A-10 of this title, it shall give the person against whom
23 the action is contemplated an opportunity for a hearing before the Board.

24 ~~(A) (H) (1) IF AFTER THE BOARD CONDUCTS AN INVESTIGATION UNDER~~
25 ~~THIS TITLE AND FINDS THAT THERE ARE NO GROUNDS FOR DISCIPLINE UNDER §~~
26 ~~8-316 OF THIS SUBTITLE, THE BOARD MAY:~~

27 ~~(1) SEND ISSUE THE LICENSEE A OR CERTIFICATE HOLDER AN~~
28 ~~ADVISORY LETTER OF EDUCATION THAT ADVISES THE LICENSEE OF THE WAYS IN~~
29 ~~WHICH THE LICENSEE MAY IMPROVE THE QUALITY OF CARE THE LICENSEE~~
30 ~~PROVIDES TO PATIENTS; AND~~

31 ~~(2) SEND THE PERSON WHO FILED A COMPLAINT AGAINST THE~~
32 ~~LICENSEE UNDER INVESTIGATION AN ADVISORY LETTER THAT INFORMS THE~~
33 ~~PERSON OF THE ACTION TAKEN BY THE BOARD.~~

34 ~~(B) THE BOARD MAY SEND THE LICENSEE NOTICE OF AN ADVISORY LETTER~~
35 ~~SENT UNDER SUBSECTION (A)(2) OF THIS SECTION.~~

1 ~~(C)~~ (2) ~~ON REQUEST, THE BOARD MAY MAKE AVAILABLE DISCLOSE TO THE~~
 2 PUBLIC AN ADVISORY LETTER ~~SENT ISSUED UNDER SUBSECTION (A)(2) OF THIS~~
 3 ~~SECTION~~ PARAGRAPH (1) OF THIS SUBSECTION.

4 ~~(D)~~ (3) IF THE BOARD ~~SENDS A LETTER OF EDUCATION OR~~ ISSUES AN
 5 ADVISORY LETTER UNDER THIS ~~SECTION~~ SUBSECTION, THE ~~ACTION LETTER~~ MAY
 6 NOT BE CONSIDERED A DISCIPLINARY ACTION ~~BY THE BOARD UNDER §§ 8-316 AND~~
 7 ~~8-6A-10 OF THIS TITLE~~ AND MAY NOT BE REPORTED TO ANY LICENSING ENTITY,
 8 EMPLOYER, OR INSURANCE COMPANY AS A DISCIPLINARY ACTION.

9 8-6A-02.

10 (a) Except as otherwise provided in this subtitle, an individual shall be
 11 certified by the Board to practice as a nursing assistant or medication technician
 12 before the individual may practice as a nursing assistant or medication technician in
 13 the State.

14 (b) This subtitle does not apply to an individual who:

15 (1) Practices a health occupation that the individual is authorized to
 16 practice under this article;

17 (2) Provides for the gratuitous care of friends or family members;

18 (3) Performs nursing assistant tasks while a nursing student enrolled in
 19 an accredited nursing program and practicing under the direct supervision of
 20 qualified faculty or preceptors;

21 (4) Performs nursing assistant tasks as a student while:

22 (i) Enrolled in a Board-approved nursing assistant training
 23 program; OR

24 (ii) Practicing under the direct supervision of qualified faculty or
 25 preceptors; [or

26 (iii) Practicing under the direct supervision of a licensed nurse while
 27 working as a nursing assistant;]

28 (5) Performs medication technician tasks as a student while practicing
 29 under the direct supervision of qualified faculty; or

30 (6) Works as a principal or school secretary, does not administer
 31 medication as a routine part of the position, and has completed training by the
 32 delegating nurse for the occasion where the individual may need to administer
 33 medication in the absence of the nurse or medication technician.

34 (c) Nothing in this section shall preclude a registered nurse or licensed
 35 practical nurse from delegating a nursing task to an unlicensed individual provided

1 that acceptance of delegated nursing tasks does not become a routine part of the
2 unlicensed individual's job duties.

3 [(d) Nothing in this subtitle may be construed as creating a scope of practice for
4 nursing assistants.]

5 8-6A-05.

6 (c) (1) An applicant for a certificate shall:

7 (i) Submit an application to the Board on the form that the Board
8 requires;

9 (ii) Provide evidence, as required by the Board, of successful
10 completion of [an]:

11 1. AN approved nursing assistant training program [or an];

12 2. AN approved course in medication administration; OR

13 3. A PORTION OF AN APPROVED NURSING EDUCATION
14 PROGRAM THAT THE BOARD DETERMINES MEETS THE REQUIREMENTS OF A
15 NURSING ASSISTANT TRAINING PROGRAM OR MEDICATION ADMINISTRATION
16 COURSE;

17 (iii) Pay to the Board an application fee set by the Board;

18 (iv) Be of good moral character;

19 (v) Be at least 16 years old to apply for certification as a nursing
20 assistant; and

21 (vi) Be at least 18 years old to apply for certification as a medication
22 technician.

23 8-6A-08.

24 (a) A certificate expires on the 28th day of the birth month of the nursing
25 assistant or medication technician, unless the certificate is renewed for a 2-year term
26 as provided in this section.

27 (b) At least 3 months before the certificate expires, the Board shall send to the
28 nursing assistant or medication technician[, by first-class mail to the last known
29 address of the nursing assistant or medication technician,] a renewal notice that
30 states:

31 (1) The date on which the current certificate expires;

32 (2) The date by which the renewal application must be received by the
33 Board for the renewal to be issued and mailed before the certificate expires; and

1 (3) The amount of the renewal fee.

2 (c) Before a certificate expires, a nursing assistant periodically may renew it
3 for an additional term, if the certificate holder:

4 (1) Otherwise is entitled to be certified;

5 (2) Submits to the Board a renewal application on the form that the
6 Board requires;

7 (3) Pays to the Board a renewal fee set by the Board; and

8 (4) Provides satisfactory evidence of completion of:

9 (i) 16 hours of active nursing assistant practice within the 2-year
10 period immediately preceding the date of renewal; or

11 (ii) An approved nursing assistant training program.

12 (d) In addition to the requirements in subsection (c)(1), (2), and (3) of this
13 section, a skilled nursing assistant shall:

14 (1) Provide satisfactory evidence of completion of 1,000 hours of practice
15 as a skilled nursing assistant within the individual's specific category of nursing
16 assistant, in the 2-year period preceding the date of renewal; and

17 (2) Successfully complete a Board-approved refresher course within the
18 individual's specific category of nursing assistant.

19 (e) Before a certificate expires, a medication technician periodically may
20 renew it for an additional term, if the certificate holder:

21 (1) Otherwise is entitled to be certified;

22 (2) Submits to the Board a renewal application on the form that the
23 Board requires;

24 (3) Pays to the Board a renewal fee set by the Board; and

25 (4) Every 2 years, provides satisfactory evidence of completion of a
26 Board-approved clinical refresher course.

27 (f) THE BOARD MAY GRANT A 30-DAY EXTENSION, BEYOND A CERTIFICATE'S
28 EXPIRATION DATE, TO A CERTIFICATE HOLDER SO THAT A THE CERTIFICATE
29 HOLDER MAY RENEW A THE CERTIFICATE BEFORE THE CERTIFICATE IT EXPIRES.

30 (G) The Board shall renew the certificate of each nursing assistant or
31 medication technician who meets the requirements of this section.

32 [(g)] (H) (1) Within 30 days after a change has occurred, each certificate
33 holder shall notify the Board in writing of any change in a name or address.

1 (2) If the certificate holder fails to notify the Board within the time
2 required under this subsection, the Board may impose an administrative penalty of
3 \$25 on the certificate holder.

4 [(h)] (I) The Board shall pay any penalty collected under this subsection to
5 the General Fund of the State.

6 8-6A-10.

7 (a) Subject to the hearing provisions of § 8-317 of this title, the Board may
8 deny a certificate or issue a probationary certificate to any applicant, reprimand any
9 certificate holder, place any certificate holder on probation, or suspend or revoke the
10 certificate of a certificate holder, if the applicant or certificate holder:

11 (1) Fraudulently or deceptively obtains or attempts to obtain a
12 certificate for the applicant or for another;

13 (2) Fraudulently or deceptively uses a certificate;

14 (3) Is disciplined by a licensing, military, or disciplinary authority in this
15 State or in any other state or country or convicted or disciplined by a court in this
16 State or in any other state or country for an act that would be grounds for disciplinary
17 action under the Board's disciplinary statutes;

18 (4) Is convicted of or pleads guilty or nolo contendere to a felony or to a
19 crime involving moral turpitude, whether or not any appeal or other proceeding is
20 pending to have the conviction or plea set aside;

21 (5) Files a false report or record of an individual under the certificate
22 holder's care;

23 (6) Gives any false or misleading information about a material matter in
24 an employment application;

25 (7) Fails to file or record any health record that is required by law;

26 (8) Induces another person to fail to file or record any health record that
27 is required by law;

28 (9) Has violated any order, rule, or regulation of the Board relating to the
29 practice or certification of a nursing assistant or medication technician;

30 (10) Provides services as a nursing assistant or medication technician
31 while:

32 (i) Under the influence of alcohol; or

33 (ii) Using any narcotic or controlled dangerous substance, as
34 defined in § 5-101 of the Criminal Law Article, or other drug that is in excess of
35 therapeutic amounts or without valid medical indication;

- 1 (11) Is habitually intoxicated;
- 2 (12) Is addicted to, or habitually abuses, any narcotic or controlled
3 dangerous substance as defined in § 5-101 of the Criminal Law Article;
- 4 (13) Has acted in a manner inconsistent with the health or safety of a
5 person under the applicant or certificate holder's care;
- 6 (14) Has practiced as a nursing assistant or medication technician in a
7 manner which fails to meet generally accepted standards for the practice of a nursing
8 assistant or medication technician;
- 9 (15) Has physically, verbally, or psychologically abused, neglected, or
10 otherwise harmed a person under the applicant or certificate holder's care;
- 11 (16) Has a physical or mental disability which renders the applicant or
12 certificate holder unable to practice as a certified nursing assistant or certified
13 medication technician with reasonable skill and safety to the patients and which may
14 endanger the health or safety of persons under the care of the applicant or certificate
15 holder;
- 16 (17) Has violated the confidentiality of information or knowledge as
17 prescribed by law concerning any patient;
- 18 (18) Has misappropriated patient or facility property;
- 19 (19) Performs certified nursing assistant or certified medication
20 technician functions incompetently;
- 21 (20) Has violated any provision of this title or has aided or knowingly
22 permitted any person to violate any provision of this title;
- 23 (21) Submits a false statement to collect a fee;
- 24 (22) Refuses, withholds from, denies, or discriminates against an
25 individual with regard to the provision of professional services for which the applicant
26 or certificate holder is certified and qualified to render because the individual is HIV
27 positive;
- 28 (23) Except in an emergency life-threatening situation where it is not
29 feasible or practicable, fails to comply with the Centers for Disease Control's
30 guidelines on universal precautions;
- 31 (24) Fails to cooperate with a lawful investigation conducted by the
32 Board;
- 33 (25) Fails to comply with instructions and directions of the supervising
34 registered nurse or licensed practical nurse;
- 35 (26) After failing to renew a certificate, commits any act that would be
36 grounds for disciplinary action under this section;

1 (27) Practices as a nursing assistant or medication technician before
2 obtaining or renewing the certificate, including any time period when the certificate
3 has lapsed;

4 (28) Impersonates another individual:

5 (i) Licensed under the provisions of this title; or

6 (ii) Who holds a certificate issued under the provisions of this title;

7 (29) [Has acted in a manner inconsistent with the health or safety of a
8 person under the certified nursing assistant's or certified medication technician's
9 care] ENGAGES IN CONDUCT THAT VIOLATES THE CODE OF ETHICS;

10 (30) Performs activities that exceed the education and training of the
11 certified nursing assistant or certified medication technician;

12 (31) Is expelled from the rehabilitation program established pursuant to §
13 8-208 of this title for failure to comply with the conditions of the program;

14 (32) Abandons a patient; or

15 (33) Is a director of nursing, or acts in the capacity of a director of nursing
16 and knowingly employs an individual who is not authorized to perform delegated
17 nursing duties under this subtitle.

18 (b) If, after a hearing under § 8-317 of this title, the Board finds that there
19 are grounds under subsection (a) of this section to suspend or revoke a certificate to
20 practice as a certified nursing assistant or certified medication technician, to
21 reprimand a certificate holder, or place a certificate holder on probation, the Board
22 may impose a penalty not exceeding \$500 instead of or in addition to suspending or
23 revoking the certificate, reprimanding the certificate holder, or placing the certificate
24 holder on probation.

25 (c) (1) An individual whose certificate has been suspended or revoked by the
26 Board shall return the certificate to the Board.

27 (2) If the suspended or revoked certificate has been lost, the individual
28 shall file with the Board a verified statement to that effect.

29 (d) The Board shall file a notice for publication in the earliest publication of
30 the Maryland Register of each revocation or suspension of a certificate under this
31 section within 24 hours of the revocation or suspension.

32 (e) If a certificate issued under this subtitle is suspended or revoked for a
33 period of more than 1 year, the Board may reinstate the certificate after 1 year if the
34 certificate holder meets the requirements for reinstatement as established by the
35 Board in regulations.

1 ~~8-6A-10.1.~~

2 ~~(A) IF THE BOARD CONDUCTS AN INVESTIGATION UNDER THIS TITLE AND~~
3 ~~FINDS THAT THERE ARE NO GROUNDS FOR DISCIPLINE UNDER § 8-6A-10 OF THIS~~
4 ~~SUBTITLE, THE BOARD MAY:~~

5 ~~(1) SEND THE CERTIFICATE HOLDER A LETTER OF EDUCATION THAT~~
6 ~~ADVISES THE CERTIFICATE HOLDER OF THE WAYS IN WHICH THE CERTIFICATE~~
7 ~~HOLDER MAY IMPROVE THE QUALITY OF CARE THE CERTIFICATE HOLDER PROVIDES~~
8 ~~TO PATIENTS; AND~~

9 ~~(2) SEND THE PERSON WHO FILED A COMPLAINT AGAINST THE~~
10 ~~CERTIFICATE HOLDER UNDER INVESTIGATION AN ADVISORY LETTER THAT INFORMS~~
11 ~~THE PERSON OF THE ACTION TAKEN BY THE BOARD.~~

12 ~~(B) THE BOARD MAY SEND THE CERTIFICATE HOLDER NOTICE OF AN~~
13 ~~ADVISORY LETTER SENT UNDER SUBSECTION (A)(2) OF THIS SECTION.~~

14 ~~(C) ON REQUEST, THE BOARD MAY MAKE AVAILABLE TO THE PUBLIC AN~~
15 ~~ADVISORY LETTER SENT UNDER SUBSECTION (A)(2) OF THIS SECTION.~~

16 ~~(D) IF THE BOARD SENDS A LETTER OF EDUCATION OR AN ADVISORY LETTER~~
17 ~~UNDER THIS SECTION, THE ACTION MAY NOT BE CONSIDERED A DISCIPLINARY~~
18 ~~ACTION BY THE BOARD AND MAY NOT BE REPORTED TO ANY LICENSING ENTITY,~~
19 ~~EMPLOYER, OR INSURANCE COMPANY AS A DISCIPLINARY ACTION.~~

20 8-6A-14.

21 (a) The Board, in conjunction with the Maryland Higher Education
22 Commission, shall approve each nursing assistant training program prior to its
23 implementation and provide periodic survey of all programs in the State.

24 (b) The Board in conjunction with the Department, Maryland Higher
25 Education Commission, and the affected industry shall develop regulations for
26 nursing assistant training programs.

27 (c) The curriculum content for an approved nursing assistant training
28 program shall include:

29 (1) Content consistent with State licensing requirements in the Health -
30 General Article and all federal requirements;

31 (2) All basic skills required of a nursing assistant regardless of the
32 setting of the practice; and

33 (3) Any skills required for certification in a specific category.

34 (d) Any additional clinical practice skills specific to a setting of practice shall
35 be taught in that setting as a part of the employment training process in that setting.

1 (e) THE BOARD MAY MAKE SURVEY VISITS FROM TIME TO TIME, WITHOUT
2 PRIOR NOTICE, TO ALL CERTIFIED NURSING ASSISTANT TRAINING PROGRAMS.

3 (F) The provisions of this section may not be interpreted to impose additional
4 requirements for geriatric nursing assistants beyond those required under federal
5 law.

6 8-6A-14.1.

7 THE BOARD MAY MAKE SURVEY VISITS FROM TIME TO TIME, WITHOUT PRIOR
8 NOTICE, TO ALL BOARD-APPROVED MEDICATION TECHNICIAN TRAINING PROGRAMS.

9 8-6B-19.

10 (H) (1) AFTER THE BOARD CONDUCTS AN INVESTIGATION UNDER THIS
11 SUBTITLE, THE BOARD MAY ISSUE THE CERTIFICATE HOLDER AN ADVISORY LETTER.

12 (2) THE BOARD MAY DISCLOSE TO THE PUBLIC AN ADVISORY LETTER
13 ISSUED UNDER PARAGRAPH (1) OF THIS SUBSECTION.

14 (3) IF THE BOARD ISSUES AN ADVISORY LETTER UNDER THIS
15 SUBSECTION, THE LETTER MAY NOT BE CONSIDERED A DISCIPLINARY ACTION
16 UNDER § 8-6B-18 OF THIS SUBTITLE AND MAY NOT BE REPORTED TO ANY LICENSING
17 ENTITY, EMPLOYER, OR INSURANCE COMPANY AS A DISCIPLINARY ACTION.

18 [8-6B-25.

19 (a) In this section, "electrologist rehabilitation committee" means a committee
20 that:

21 (1) Is defined in subsection (b) of this section; and

22 (2) Performs any of the functions listed in subsection (d) of this section.

23 (b) For purposes of this section, an electrologist rehabilitation committee is a
24 committee that:

25 (1) Is recognized by the Board; and

26 (2) Includes but is not limited to electrologists.

27 (c) An electrologist rehabilitation committee recognized by the Board may
28 function:

29 (1) Solely for the committee; or

30 (2) Jointly with a rehabilitation committee representing another
31 committee, the Board, or another board or boards.

32 (d) For purposes of this section, an electrologist rehabilitation committee
33 evaluates and provides assistance to an electrologist in need of treatment and

1 rehabilitation for alcoholism, drug abuse, chemical dependency, or other physical,
2 emotional, or mental condition.

3 (e) (1) Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, the proceedings,
4 records, and files of the electrologist rehabilitation committee are not discoverable
5 and are not admissible in evidence in any civil action arising out of matters that are
6 being or have been reviewed and evaluated by the electrologist rehabilitation
7 committee.

8 (2) Paragraph (1) of this subsection does not apply to a record or
9 document that is considered by the electrologist rehabilitation committee and that
10 otherwise would be subject to discovery or introduction into evidence in a civil action.

11 (3) For purposes of this subsection, civil action does not include a
12 proceeding before the Board or judicial review of a proceeding before the Board.

13 (f) A person who acts in good faith and within the scope of jurisdiction of an
14 electrologist rehabilitation committee is not civilly liable for any action as a member
15 of the electrologist rehabilitation committee or for giving information to, participating
16 in, or contributing to the function of the electrologist rehabilitation committee.]

17 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
18 October 1, 2006.