

**Department of Legislative Services**

Maryland General Assembly

2007 Session

**FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE**

House Bill 445

(Delegate Kullen, *et al.*)

Health and Government Operations

Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

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**State Board of Nursing - Advanced Nurse Practitioners - Membership and Qualifications**

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This bill adds a registered nurse (RN) certified in an advanced practice nursing specialty to the State Board of Nursing, expanding the board to 12 members.

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**Fiscal Summary**

**State Effect:** The bill's requirement could be handled with existing budgeted resources.

**Local Effect:** None.

**Small Business Effect:** None.

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**Analysis**

**Bill Summary:** Only RNs certified in one of the following specialties may be considered for this new board member position: nurse anesthetist, nurse practitioner, nurse midwife, or nurse psychotherapist. The new board member must hold a current license to practice registered nursing in Maryland; hold a current certification in an advanced practice nursing specialty in Maryland; and have at least five years of experience in an advanced practice nursing education or practice, including at least three years immediately prior to the appointment.

The Governor must appoint this new board member with the advice of the Secretary of Health and Mental Hygiene from a list of qualified individuals jointly developed by the Maryland Association of Nurse Anesthetists, Inc.; the Nurse Practitioners Association of

Maryland, Inc.; the Maryland Coalition of Nurse Practitioners, Inc.; the Maryland Chapter, American College of Nurse-Midwives; and the Psychiatric Advance Practice Nurses of Maryland. The organizations developing and submitting the nominees for the new board member position must rotate among the specialties with each nomination for a vacancy.

**Current Law:** The State Board of Nursing has 11 board members: 6 RNs; 3 licensed practical nurses; and 2 consumers. Of the six RNs: one must be a baccalaureate nursing educator with at least a master's degree in nursing or education; one must be an associate degree nursing educator with at least a master's degree in nursing or education; one must be a practical nursing educator with at least a bachelor of science degree in nursing or education; one must be a nurse administrator with at least a master's degree in nursing administration, education, or public health; and two must be nurse clinicians, one of whom must have at least a master's degree in nursing or public health.

The Governor must appoint the RN members with the advice of the Secretary from a list of qualified individuals submitted by the Maryland Nurses Association, Inc. The number of names must be five times the number of vacancies.

**Background:** DHMH advises that there are approximately 3,500 RNs certified in an advanced practice nursing specialty in Maryland. This encompasses all four certification groups: nurse anesthetist, nurse practitioner, nurse midwife, and nurse psychotherapist.

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### **Additional Information**

**Prior Introductions:** None.

**Cross File:** SB 378 (Senator Dyson, *et al.*) – Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs.

**Information Source(s):** Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, Department of Legislative Services

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader - February 12, 2007  
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