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HOUSE BILL 2835

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State of Washington                      57th Legislature                      2002 Regular Session

By Representatives Cody, Skinner and Schual-Berke

Read first time 01/29/2002. Referred to Committee on Health Care.

1            AN ACT Relating to oversight by the nursing care quality assurance  
2 commission of health services rendered in public schools; and amending  
3 RCW 18.79.110.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

5            **Sec. 1.** RCW 18.79.110 and 1994 sp.s. c 9 s 411 are each amended to  
6 read as follows:

7            The commission shall keep a record of all of its proceedings and  
8 make such reports to the governor as may be required. The commission  
9 shall define by rules what constitutes specialized and advanced levels  
10 of nursing practice as recognized by the medical and nursing  
11 profession. The commission may adopt rules or issue advisory opinions  
12 in response to questions put to it by professional health associations,  
13 nursing practitioners, and consumers in this state concerning the  
14 authority of various categories of nursing practitioners to perform  
15 particular acts. The commission shall have oversight over health care  
16 services delivered in public schools, in consultation with the office  
17 of the superintendent of public instruction.

18            The commission shall approve curricula and shall establish criteria  
19 for minimum standards for schools preparing persons for licensing as

1 registered nurses, advanced registered nurse practitioners, and  
2 licensed practical nurses under this chapter. The commission shall  
3 approve such schools of nursing as meet the requirements of this  
4 chapter and the commission, and the commission shall approve  
5 establishment of basic nursing education programs and shall establish  
6 criteria as to the need for and the size of a program and the type of  
7 program and the geographical location. The commission shall establish  
8 criteria for proof of reasonable currency of knowledge and skill as a  
9 basis for safe practice after three years' inactive or lapsed status.  
10 The commission shall establish criteria for licensing by endorsement.  
11 The commission shall determine examination requirements for applicants  
12 for licensing as registered nurses, advanced registered nurse  
13 practitioners, and licensed practical nurses under this chapter, and  
14 shall certify to the secretary for licensing duly qualified applicants.

15 The commission shall adopt such rules under chapter 34.05 RCW as  
16 are necessary to fulfill the purposes of this chapter.

17 The commission is the successor in interest of the board of nursing  
18 and the board of practical nursing. All contracts, undertakings,  
19 agreements, rules, regulations, decisions, orders, and policies of the  
20 former board of nursing or the board of practical nursing continue in  
21 full force and effect under the commission until the commission amends  
22 or rescinds those rules, regulations, decisions, orders, or policies.

23 The members of the commission are immune from suit in an action,  
24 civil or criminal, based on its disciplinary proceedings or other  
25 official acts performed in good faith as members of the commission.

26 Whenever the workload of the commission requires, the commission  
27 may request that the secretary appoint pro tempore members of the  
28 commission. When serving, pro tempore members of the commission have  
29 all of the powers, duties, and immunities, and are entitled to all of  
30 the emoluments, including travel expenses, of regularly appointed  
31 members of the commission.

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