

1295-S

Sponsor(s): House Committee on Health Care (originally sponsored by Representatives Morrell, Bailey, Cody, Kenney and Campbell; by request of Department of Health)

Brief Description: Eliminating barriers to initial licensure in health professions.

HB 1295-S - DIGEST

(AS OF HOUSE 2ND READING 2/10/03)

Finds that the health care work force shortage is contributing to the health care crisis.

Finds that some unnecessary barriers exist that slow or prevent qualified applicants from becoming credentialed health care providers.

Declares that eliminating these initial barriers to licensure will contribute to state initiatives directed toward easing the health care personnel shortage in Washington.

Provides that a licensed practical nurse with an active license who is in the process of completing or has completed the coursework of a nontraditional registered nurse program approved by the commission can obtain the required clinical experience when:

- (1) The experience is obtained under the immediate supervision of a registered nurse who agrees to act as the preceptor with the understanding that the licensed practical nurse is practicing under the preceptor's registered nurse license. The preceptor must have an unrestricted license with at least two years of clinical practice in the same type of practice setting where the preceptorship will occur; and

- (2) The experience is obtained within six months of completion of the approved nontraditional program.