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**SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 1353**

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**State of Washington                      59th Legislature                      2005 Regular Session**

**By** House Committee on Appropriations (originally sponsored by Representatives Kenney, Morrell, Cody, Clibborn, Campbell, Williams, Conway and Santos)

READ FIRST TIME 03/02/05.

1            AN ACT Relating to funding a central resource center for the  
2 nursing work force; amending RCW 43.70.110 and 43.70.250; adding a new  
3 section to chapter 18.79 RCW; creating a new section; repealing RCW  
4 18.79.---; repealing 2005 c ... s 1 (uncodified); and providing an  
5 effective date.

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

7            NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 1.** Washington state is experiencing a critical  
8 shortage of registered nurses. To safeguard and promote patient safety  
9 and quality of care, the legislature finds that a central resource  
10 center for the nursing work force is critical and essential in  
11 addressing the nursing shortage and ensuring that the public continue  
12 to receive safe, quality care.

13            **Sec. 2.** RCW 43.70.110 and 1993 sp.s. c 24 s 918 are each amended  
14 to read as follows:

15            (1) The secretary shall charge fees to the licensee for obtaining  
16 a license. After June 30, 1995, municipal corporations providing  
17 emergency medical care and transportation services pursuant to chapter  
18 18.73 RCW shall be exempt from such fees, provided that such other

1 emergency services shall only be charged for their pro rata share of  
2 the cost of licensure and inspection, if appropriate. The secretary  
3 may waive the fees when, in the discretion of the secretary, the fees  
4 would not be in the best interest of public health and safety, or when  
5 the fees would be to the financial disadvantage of the state.

6 (2) Except as provided in section 4 of this act, until June 30,  
7 2013, fees charged shall be based on, but shall not exceed, the cost to  
8 the department for the licensure of the activity or class of activities  
9 and may include costs of necessary inspection.

10 (3) Department of health advisory committees may review fees  
11 established by the secretary for licenses and comment upon the  
12 appropriateness of the level of such fees.

13 **Sec. 3.** RCW 43.70.250 and 1996 c 191 s 1 are each amended to read  
14 as follows:

15 It shall be the policy of the state of Washington that the cost of  
16 each professional, occupational, or business licensing program be fully  
17 borne by the members of that profession, occupation, or business. The  
18 secretary shall from time to time establish the amount of all  
19 application fees, license fees, registration fees, examination fees,  
20 permit fees, renewal fees, and any other fee associated with licensing  
21 or regulation of professions, occupations, or businesses administered  
22 by the department. In fixing said fees, the secretary shall set the  
23 fees for each program at a sufficient level to defray the costs of  
24 administering that program, except as provided in section 4 of this act  
25 until June 30, 2013. All such fees shall be fixed by rule adopted by  
26 the secretary in accordance with the provisions of the administrative  
27 procedure act, chapter 34.05 RCW.

28 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** A new section is added to chapter 18.79 RCW  
29 to read as follows:

30 (1) In addition to the licensing fee for registered nurses and  
31 licensed practical nurses licensed under this chapter, the department  
32 shall impose an additional surcharge of five dollars per year on all  
33 initial licenses and renewal licenses for registered nurses and  
34 licensed practical nurses issued under this chapter. Advanced  
35 registered nurse practitioners are only required to pay the surcharge  
36 on their registered nurse licenses.

1 (2) The department, in consultation with the commission, shall use  
2 the proceeds from the surcharge imposed under subsection (1) of this  
3 section to provide grants to a central nursing resource center. The  
4 grants may be awarded only to a not-for-profit central nursing resource  
5 center that is comprised of and led by nurses. The central nursing  
6 resource center will demonstrate coordination with relevant nursing  
7 constituents including professional nursing organizations, groups  
8 representing nursing educators, staff nurses, nurse managers or  
9 executives, and labor organizations representing nurses. The central  
10 nursing resource center shall have as its mission to contribute to the  
11 health and wellness of Washington state residents by ensuring that  
12 there is an adequate nursing work force to meet the current and future  
13 health care needs of the citizens of the state of Washington. The  
14 grants must be used to fund the following activities of the central  
15 nursing resource center:

16 (a) Maintain information on the current and projected supply and  
17 demand of nurses through the collection and analysis of data regarding  
18 the nursing work force, including but not limited to education level,  
19 race and ethnicity, employment settings, nursing positions, reasons for  
20 leaving the nursing profession, and those leaving Washington state to  
21 practice elsewhere. This data collection and analysis must complement  
22 other state activities to produce data on the nursing work force and  
23 the central nursing resource center shall work collaboratively with  
24 other entities in the data collection to ensure coordination and avoid  
25 duplication of efforts;

26 (b) Monitor and validate trends in the applicant pool for programs  
27 in nursing. The central nursing resource center must work with nursing  
28 leaders to identify approaches to address issues arising related to the  
29 trends identified, and collect information on other states' approaches  
30 to addressing these issues;

31 (c) Facilitate partnerships between the nursing community and other  
32 health care providers, licensing authority, business and industry,  
33 consumers, legislators, and educators to achieve policy consensus,  
34 promote diversity within the profession, and enhance nursing career  
35 mobility and nursing leadership development;

36 (d) Evaluate the effectiveness of nursing education and  
37 articulation among programs to increase access to nursing education and

1 enhance career mobility, especially for populations that are  
2 underrepresented in the nursing profession;

3 (e) Provide consultation, technical assistance, data, and  
4 information related to Washington state and national nursing resources;

5 (f) Promote strategies to enhance patient safety and quality  
6 patient care including encouraging a safe and healthy workplace  
7 environment for nurses; and

8 (g) Educate the public including students in K-12 about  
9 opportunities and careers in nursing.

10 (3) The nursing resource center account is created in the custody  
11 of the state treasurer. All receipts from the surcharge in subsection  
12 (1) of this section must be deposited in the account. Expenditures  
13 from the account may be used only for grants to an organization to  
14 conduct the specific activities listed in subsection (2) of this  
15 section and to compensate the department for the reasonable costs  
16 associated with the collection and distribution of the surcharge and  
17 the administration of the grant provided for in subsection (2) of this  
18 section. No money from this account may be used by the recipient  
19 towards administrative costs of the central nursing resource center not  
20 associated with the specific activities listed in subsection (2) of  
21 this section. No money from this account may be used by the recipient  
22 toward lobbying. Only the secretary or the secretary's designee may  
23 authorize expenditures from the account. The account is subject to  
24 allotment procedures under chapter 43.88 RCW, but an appropriation is  
25 not required for expenditures. Grants will be awarded on an annual  
26 basis and funds will be distributed quarterly. The first distribution  
27 after awarding the first grant shall be made no later than six months  
28 after the effective date of this section. The central nursing resource  
29 center shall report to the department on meeting the grant objectives  
30 annually.

31 (4) The central nursing resource center shall submit a report of  
32 all progress, collaboration with other organizations and government  
33 entities, and activities conducted by the center to the relevant  
34 committees of the legislature by November 30, 2011. The department  
35 shall conduct a review of the program to collect funds to support the  
36 activities of a nursing resource center and make recommendations on the  
37 effectiveness of the program and whether it should continue. The

1 review shall be paid for with funds from the nursing resource center  
2 account. The review must be completed by June 30, 2012.

3 (5) The department may adopt rules as necessary to implement this  
4 act.

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** The following acts or parts of acts, as now  
6 existing or hereafter amended, are each repealed, effective June 30,  
7 2013:

8 (1) Section 1 of this act; and

9 (2) Section 4 of this act.

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