

Senate Bill 227

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SUMMARY

The following summary is not prepared by the sponsors of the measure and is not a part of the body thereof subject to consideration by the Legislative Assembly. It is an editor's brief statement of the essential features of the measure **as introduced**.

During emergency declared by Governor, allows Oregon State Board of Nursing to issue limited license to practice nursing to nurse licensed in another jurisdiction and to issue limited certificate as nursing assistant to nursing assistant authorized to practice in another jurisdiction.

Takes effect on 91st day following adjournment sine die.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

1
2 Relating to the Oregon State Board of Nursing; creating new provisions; amending ORS 678.050 and
3 678.442; and prescribing an effective date.

4 **Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:**

5 **SECTION 1.** ORS 678.050, as amended by section 14, chapter 38, Oregon Laws 2022, is amended
6 to read:

7 678.050. (1) Examinations for the licensing of applicants under ORS 678.010 to 678.448 must be
8 held at least once a year. An applicant must pass an examination in subjects relating to nursing at
9 the practical or registered level as the Oregon State Board of Nursing may determine necessary to
10 protect the public health and welfare.

11 (2) The board shall issue to all duly qualified applicants who pass the examination and meet
12 other standards established by the board the license provided for in ORS 678.010 to 678.448 ac-
13 cording to the nature of the license for which application is made and examination taken and passed.
14 The board shall provide evidence of current licensure. The board shall determine by rule the form
15 and manner of the evidence of current licensure.

16 (3)(a) The board may issue a license by indorsement to an applicant qualified as provided in ORS
17 678.040 who has passed the examination used by the board and who meets other standards estab-
18 lished by the board. The board may also require evidence of competency to practice nursing at the
19 level for which application is made.

20 (b) Except as provided in ORS 676.308, the board shall process in order applications for
21 licensure by indorsement of qualified applicants.

22 (c) Paragraph (b) of this subsection does not prohibit the board from processing requests to
23 employ nurses to meet temporary staffing shortages, as described in ORS 678.031 or 678.034, in fa-
24 cilities in this state not involved in labor disputes.

25 (4) Subject to terms and conditions that the board may impose, the board may issue a limited
26 license to practice registered or practical nursing:

27 (a) To an applicant whose license has become void for nonpayment of fees at either level and
28 who otherwise meets the requirements of the board. The board may, in issuing a limited license,
29 require the applicant to demonstrate ability to give safe nursing care by undergoing a supervised

NOTE: Matter in **boldfaced** type in an amended section is new; matter *[italic and bracketed]* is existing law to be omitted. New sections are in **boldfaced** type.

1 experience in nursing practice designated by the board, or by satisfactorily completing a continuing
2 education program approved by the board. The license issued under this paragraph expires on the
3 date set in the license by the board. Upon the applicant's satisfactory completion of the board's re-
4 quirements, and payment of the renewal fee and delinquency fee, the board shall issue to the appli-
5 cant a license to practice nursing.

6 (b) To an applicant who has not practiced nursing in any state for a period of five years, but
7 has maintained a current license by the payment of fees. The applicant may not practice nursing in
8 Oregon unless the applicant applies to the board for a limited license and the board issues the lim-
9 ited license to the applicant. The board may, in issuing a limited license, require the applicant to
10 demonstrate ability to give safe nursing care by undergoing a supervised experience in nursing
11 practice designated by the board, or by satisfactorily completing a continuing education program
12 approved or designated by the board. The board may not issue a license if, in the judgment of the
13 board, the applicant's conduct has been such, during absence from practice, that the applicant would
14 be denied a license if applying for an initial license to practice nursing in this state.

15 (c) To a licensee who has been placed on probation or has been otherwise subjected to disci-
16 plinary action by the board.

17 (d) To any of the following persons if the person is affiliated with a planned program of study
18 in Oregon consistent with the standards and requirements established by the board:

19 (A) A foreign nurse;

20 (B) A foreign student nurse; or

21 (C) A nurse licensed in another jurisdiction.

22 (e) **During an emergency declared by the Governor pursuant to ORS 401.165, to a nurse**
23 **licensed in another jurisdiction. The board shall adopt rules to establish criteria for issuance**
24 **of a license under this paragraph.**

25 (5) The board may adopt by rule requirements and procedures for placing a license or certificate
26 in inactive status.

27 (6)(a) Retired status may be granted to a person licensed as a registered nurse, licensed practi-
28 cal nurse, nurse practitioner, certified registered nurse anesthetist or clinical nurse specialist and
29 who surrenders the person's license while in good standing with the issuing authority if the person
30 is not subject to any pending disciplinary investigation or action. The board may adopt by rule re-
31 quirements, procedures and fees for placing a license in retired status.

32 (b) A person granted retired status by the board under the provisions of paragraph (a) of this
33 subsection:

34 (A) Shall pay a fee in an amount to be determined by the board for retired status.

35 (B) May not practice nursing or offer to practice nursing in this state.

36 (C) May use the title or abbreviation with the retired license only if the designation "retired"
37 appears after the title or abbreviation.

38 **SECTION 2.** ORS 678.442 is amended to read:

39 678.442. (1) The Oregon State Board of Nursing shall establish standards for certifying and shall
40 certify as a nursing assistant any person who:

41 (a) Submits an application;

42 (b)(A) Shows completion of an approved training program for nursing assistants; or

43 (B) Has military training or experience that the board determines is substantially equivalent to
44 the training required by subparagraph (A) of this paragraph; and

45 (c) Passes a board approved examination.

1 (2) In the manner prescribed in ORS chapter 183, the board may revoke or suspend a certificate
2 issued under this section or may reprimand a nursing assistant for the following reasons:

3 (a) Conviction of the certificate holder of a crime where such crime bears demonstrable re-
4 lationship to the duties of a nursing assistant. A copy of the record of such conviction, certified to
5 by the clerk of the court entering the conviction, shall be conclusive evidence of the conviction.

6 (b) Any willful fraud or misrepresentation in applying for or procuring a certificate or renewal
7 thereof.

8 (c) Impairment as defined in ORS 676.303.

9 (d) Violation of any provisions of ORS 678.010 to 678.448 or rules adopted thereunder.

10 (e) Physical condition that makes the certificate holder unable to perform safely the duties of
11 a nursing assistant.

12 (f) Conduct unbecoming a nursing assistant in the performance of duties.

13 (3) The board shall establish by rule a procedure for the biennial renewal of nursing assistant
14 certificates. The certificate renewal procedure must be substantially like the procedure established
15 for the licensing of nurses under ORS 678.101.

16 (4) Notwithstanding ORS 192.345, the board may use the results of a nursing assistant exam-
17 ination for the continuing education of applicants for certification as a nursing assistant.

18 **(5) During an emergency declared by the Governor pursuant to ORS 401.165 and subject**
19 **to terms and conditions that the board may impose, the board may issue a limited certificate**
20 **to a nursing assistant authorized in another jurisdiction. The board shall adopt rules to es-**
21 **tablish criteria for issuance of a limited certificate under this subsection.**

22 **SECTION 3. (1) The amendments to ORS 678.050 and 678.442 by sections 1 and 2 of this**
23 **2023 Act become operative on January 1, 2024.**

24 **(2) The Oregon State Board of Nursing may take any action before the operative date**
25 **specified in subsection (1) of this section that is necessary to enable the board to exercise,**
26 **on and after the operative date specified in subsection (1) of this section, all of the duties,**
27 **functions and powers conferred on the board by the amendments to ORS 678.050 and 678.442**
28 **by sections 1 and 2 of this 2023 Act.**

29 **SECTION 4. This 2023 Act takes effect on the 91st day after the date on which the 2023**
30 **regular session of the Eighty-second Legislative Assembly adjourns sine die.**