

By: Huggins

To: Public Health and  
Welfare

SENATE BILL NO. 2677

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 73-15-5, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO  
2 CLARIFY THE DEFINITION OF NURSING PRACTICE; AND FOR RELATED  
3 PURPOSES.

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

5 SECTION 1. Section 73-15-5, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
6 amended as follows:[RDD1]

7 73-15-5. (1) Board means the Mississippi Board of Nursing.

8 (2) The practice of nursing by a registered nurse means the  
9 performance for compensation of services which require substantial  
10 knowledge of the biological, physical, behavioral, psychological  
11 and sociological sciences and of nursing theory as the basis for  
12 assessment, diagnosis, planning, intervention and evaluation in  
13 the promotion and maintenance of health; management of  
14 individuals' responses to illness, injury or infirmity; the  
15 restoration of optimum function; or the achievement of a dignified  
16 death. Nursing practice includes, but is not limited to,  
17 administration, teaching, counseling, delegation and supervision  
18 of nursing, and execution of the medical regimen, including the  
19 administration of medications and treatments prescribed by any  
20 licensed or legally authorized physician or dentist. The  
21 foregoing shall not be deemed to include acts of medical diagnosis

22 or prescriptions of medical, therapeutic or corrective measures,  
23 except as may be set forth by rules and regulations promulgated  
24 and implemented by \* \* \* the Mississippi Board of Nursing \* \* \*.

25 (3) The practice of nursing by a licensed practical nurse  
26 means the performance for compensation of services requiring basic  
27 knowledge of the biological, physical, behavioral, psychological  
28 and sociological sciences and of nursing procedures which do not  
29 require the substantial skill, judgment and knowledge required of  
30 a registered nurse. These services are performed under the  
31 direction of a registered nurse or a licensed physician or  
32 licensed dentist and utilize standardized procedures in the  
33 observation and care of the ill, injured and infirm; in the  
34 maintenance of health; in action to safeguard life and health; and  
35 in the administration of medications and treatments prescribed by  
36 any licensed physician or licensed dentist authorized by state law  
37 to prescribe. On a selected basis, and within safe limits, the  
38 role of the licensed practical nurse shall be expanded by the  
39 board under its rule-making authority to more complex procedures  
40 and settings commensurate with additional preparation and  
41 experience.

42 (4) A license means an authorization to practice nursing as  
43 a registered nurse or a licensed practical nurse designated  
44 herein.

45 (5) A registered nurse is a person who is licensed under the  
46 provisions of this chapter and who practices nursing as defined  
47 herein. "R.N." is the abbreviation for the title of registered  
48 nurse.

49 (6) A licensed practical nurse is a person who is licensed  
50 under this chapter and who practices practical nursing as defined  
51 herein. "L.P.N." is the abbreviation for the title of licensed  
52 practical nurse.

53           (7) A registered nurse in clinical practice is one who  
54 functions in any health care delivery system which provides  
55 nursing services.

56           (8) A nurse educator is a registered nurse who meets the  
57 criteria for faculty as set forth in a state accredited program of  
58 nursing for registered nurses, or a state approved program of  
59 nursing for licensed practical nurses, and who functions as a  
60 faculty member.

61           (9) A consumer representative is a person representing the  
62 interests of the general public, who may use services of a health  
63 agency or health professional organization or its members but who  
64 is neither a provider of health services, nor employed in the  
65 health services field, nor holds a vested interest in the  
66 provision of health services at any level, nor has an immediate  
67 family member who holds vested interests in the provisions of  
68 health services at any level.

69           SECTION 2. This act shall take effect and be in force from  
70 and after July 1, 2000.