

By: Representative Currie

To: Public Health and Human
Services

HOUSE BILL NO. 601

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 73-15-9, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO
2 REVISE THE MEMBERSHIP OF THE MISSISSIPPI BOARD OF NURSING TO
3 REMOVE THE LICENSED PHYSICIAN MEMBER AND ADD A CERTIFIED
4 REGISTERED NURSE ANESTHETIST MEMBER; TO PROVIDE THAT THE MEMBERS
5 OF THE BOARD WHO ARE REGISTERED NURSES OTHER THAN THE NURSE
6 PRACTITIONER MEMBER AND THE CERTIFIED REGISTERED NURSE ANESTHETIST
7 MEMBER SHALL NOT BE ADVANCED PRACTICE REGISTERED NURSES; TO DELETE
8 THE REQUIREMENT THAT MEMBERS OF THE BOARD SHALL BE APPOINTED FROM
9 LISTS OF NOMINEES SUBMITTED BY MISSISSIPPI REGISTERED NURSE AND
10 PRACTICAL NURSE ORGANIZATIONS OR ASSOCIATIONS; TO AMEND SECTIONS
11 73-15-11 AND 73-15-15, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO CONFORM TO THE
12 PRECEDING PROVISIONS; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

14 **SECTION 1.** Section 73-15-9, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
15 amended as follows:

16 73-15-9. (1) There is * * * created a board to be known as
17 the Mississippi Board of Nursing, composed of thirteen (13)
18 members, two (2) of whom shall be nurse educators; three (3) of
19 whom shall be registered nurses in clinical practice, two (2) to
20 have as basic nursing preparation an associate degree or diploma
21 and one (1) to have as basic nursing preparation a baccalaureate
22 degree; one (1) of whom shall be a registered nurse at large; one
23 (1) of whom shall be a registered nurse practitioner; four (4) of



whom shall be licensed practical nurses; one (1) of whom shall be a * * * certified registered nurse anesthetist; and one (1) of whom shall represent consumers of health services. The members of the board who are registered nurses other than the nurse practitioner member and the certified registered nurse anesthetist member shall not be advanced practice registered nurses. There shall be at least * * * two (2) board members from each * * * Supreme Court district in the state; * * * however, * * * the consumer representative member and one (1) registered nurse member shall be at large always.

(2) Members of the Mississippi Board of Nursing * * * shall be appointed by the Governor, with the advice and consent of the Senate * * *. Appointments made to fill vacancies for unexpired terms shall be for the duration of such terms and until a successor is duly appointed.

(3) Members of the board shall be appointed in staggered terms for four (4) years or until a successor shall be duly qualified. No member may serve more than two (2) consecutive full terms. Members of the board serving on July 1, 1988, shall continue to serve for their appointed terms.

(4) Vacancies occurring by reason of resignation, death or otherwise shall be filled by appointment of the Governor * * *. All vacancy appointments shall be for the unexpired terms.

(5) Any member may be removed from the board by the Governor after a hearing by the board * * *.



49 **SECTION 2.** Section 73-15-11, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
50 amended as follows:

51 73-15-11. (1) The members of the Mississippi Board of
52 Nursing shall meet annually and organize for the ensuing year by
53 election of one (1) of its members as president, one (1) as
54 secretary, and one (1) as treasurer. The * * * representative of
55 consumers of health services may discuss and nominate but shall
56 not vote for officers nor hold office in such elections.

57 (2) The board shall meet at least once every four (4) months
58 for the purpose of transacting such business as may come before
59 the board. Any member who shall not attend two (2) consecutive
60 meetings of the board shall be subject to removal by the Governor.
61 The president of the board shall notify the Governor in writing
62 when any such member has failed to attend two (2) consecutive
63 regular meetings.

64 (3) Special meetings of the board may be held on call of the
65 president or upon call of any seven (7) members. A notice of
66 time, place and purpose of any special meeting shall be provided
67 by the executive director to all members of the board.

68 (4) On all matters the board shall function as a board of
69 thirteen (13) members, and seven (7) members, including at least
70 three (3) registered nurses and two (2) practical nurses, shall
71 constitute a quorum. In any case, the affirmative vote of a
72 majority of the members present and participating shall be
73 necessary to take action. In all cases pertaining to practical



nursing, such majority must include the affirmative vote of at least one (1) of the practical nurse members of the board.

(5) The board shall hold not less than two (2) examinations each year for registered nurses and not less than two (2) each year for licensed practical nurses, at such times and places as the board may determine.

(6) Each member of the board shall receive a per diem compensation as provided in Section 25-3-69 for attendance at board meetings, together with necessary travel and other expenses incurred in the discharge of his or her duties as a board member.

SECTION 3. Section 73-15-15, Mississippi Code of 1972, is amended as follows:

73-15-15. (1) Each board member shall be a citizen of the United States, a resident of the State of Mississippi, and shall before entering upon duties of said office take the oath prescribed by Section 268 of the Constitution of the State of Mississippi and file same with the office of the secretary of state who shall thereupon issue such person so appointed a certificate of appointment.

(2) Each registered nurse board member shall possess these additional qualifications:

(a) Education - graduation from an approved educational program for the preparation of registered nurses;

(b) Experience - have at least five (5) years of nursing experience since graduation;



99 (c) Employment - have been employed for at least the
100 past three (3) years as a registered nurse in Mississippi;

101 (d) Licensure - be currently registered to practice as
102 a registered nurse in the State of Mississippi.

103 (3) Each licensed practical nurse board member shall possess
104 these additional qualifications:

105 (a) Education - graduation from an approved educational
106 program for the preparation of licensed practical nurses;

107 (b) Experience - have at least five (5) years of
108 nursing experience since graduation;

109 (c) Employment - have been employed for at least the
110 past three (3) years as a licensed practical nurse in Mississippi;

111 (d) Licensure - be currently registered to practice as
112 a licensed practical nurse in the State of Mississippi.

113 * * *

114 **SECTION 4.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
115 and after July 1, 2025.

