

By: Senator(s) Nunnelee

To: Public Health and Welfare

SENATE BILL NO. 2671

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 73-15-27, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972,
2 TO INCREASE CERTAIN LICENSE RENEWAL FEES CHARGED BY THE
3 MISSISSIPPI BOARD OF NURSING; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

5 **SECTION 1.** Section 73-15-27, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
6 amended as follows:

7 73-15-27. The license of every person licensed under the
8 provisions of this chapter shall be renewed biennially except as
9 hereinafter provided:

10 (a) Registered nurses:

11 (i) The license to practice as a registered nurse
12 shall be valid for two (2) calendar years, beginning January 1 of
13 each uneven-numbered year and expiring December 31 in each
14 even-numbered year of the biennial period and subject to renewal
15 for each period of two (2) years thereafter.

16 (ii) A notice for renewal of licensure will be
17 mailed by the board on or before November 1 of the year the
18 license expires to every person to whom a license was issued or
19 renewed during the biennial period. An application shall be
20 completed and returned to the board by December 31 of that year
21 with the biennial renewal fee to be set at the discretion of the
22 board, but not to exceed One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00).

23 (iii) Upon receipt of the application and fee, the
24 board shall verify the accuracy of the application and issue to
25 the applicant a certificate of renewal for the ensuing period of
26 two (2) years. Such renewal shall render the holder thereof the
27 right to practice as a registered nurse.

28 (iv) A registered nurse may request in writing to
29 the board that his or her license be placed on inactive status.
30 The board may grant such request and shall have authority, in its
31 discretion, to attach conditions to the licensure of such
32 registered nurse while on inactive status. A biennial renewal fee
33 for inactive registered nurses shall be set at the discretion of
34 the board, not to exceed Fifty Dollars (\$50.00).

35 (v) Any registered nurse applying for a license,
36 renewal of an active license, reinstatement of a lapsed license,
37 or change from inactive to active status may be required to
38 provide evidence of continuing basic nursing competencies when
39 such nurse has not practiced nursing for compensation or performed
40 the function of a registered nurse in a voluntary capacity with or
41 without compensation within the five-year period immediately prior
42 to such application for a license, renewal, reinstatement or
43 change of status.

44 (vi) Any registered nurse who permits his or her
45 license to lapse by failing to renew the license as provided above
46 may be reinstated by the board on satisfactory explanation for
47 such failure to renew his or her license, by compliance with all
48 other applicable provisions of this chapter, by completion of a
49 reinstatement form, and upon payment of a reinstatement fee not to
50 exceed One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00), which shall not include the
51 renewal fee for the current biennial period. Any registered nurse
52 who permits his or her license to lapse shall be notified by the
53 board within fifteen (15) days of such lapse.

54 (vii) Any person practicing as a registered nurse
55 during the time his or her license has lapsed shall be considered
56 in violation of this chapter and shall be subject to the penalties
57 provided for violation of this chapter, provided the registered
58 nurse has not submitted the required reinstatement form and fees
59 within fifteen (15) days after notification by the board of such
60 lapse.

61 (b) Licensed practical nurses:

62 (i) The license to practice as a licensed
63 practical nurse shall be valid for two (2) calendar years,
64 beginning January 1 of each even-numbered year and expiring
65 December 31 in each uneven-numbered year of the biennial period
66 and subject to renewal for each period of two (2) years
67 thereafter.

68 (ii) A notice for renewal of licensure will be
69 mailed by the board on or before November 1 of the year the
70 license expires to every person to whom a license was issued or
71 renewed during the biennial period. An application shall be
72 completed and returned to the board by December 31 of that year
73 with the biennial renewal fee to be set at the discretion of the
74 board, but not to exceed One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00).

75 (iii) Upon receipt of the application and fee, the
76 board shall verify the accuracy of the application and issue to
77 the applicant a certificate of renewal for the ensuing period of
78 two (2) years. Such renewal shall render the holder thereof the
79 right to practice as a licensed practical nurse.

80 (iv) A licensed practical nurse may request in
81 writing to the board that his or her license be placed on inactive
82 status. The board may grant such request and shall have
83 authority, in its discretion, to attach conditions to the
84 licensure of such licensed practical nurse while on inactive
85 status. A biennial renewal fee for inactive licensed practical
86 nurses shall be set at the discretion of the board, not to exceed
87 Fifty Dollars (\$50.00).

88 (v) Any licensed practical nurse applying for a
89 license, renewal of an active license, reinstatement of a lapsed
90 license, or change from inactive to active status may be required
91 to provide evidence of continuing basic nursing competencies when
92 such nurse has not practiced nursing for compensation or performed
93 the function of a licensed practical nurse in a voluntary capacity

94 with or without compensation within the five-year period
95 immediately prior to such application for a license, renewal,
96 reinstatement or change of status.

97 (vi) Any licensed practical nurse who permits his
98 or her license to lapse by failing to renew the license as
99 provided above may be reinstated by the board upon satisfactory
100 explanation for such failure to renew his or her license, by
101 compliance with all other applicable provisions of this chapter,
102 by completion of a reinstatement form, and upon payment of the
103 reinstatement fee not to exceed One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00),
104 which shall not include the renewal fee for the current biennial
105 period. Any licensed practical nurse who permits his or her
106 license to lapse shall be notified by the board within fifteen
107 (15) days of such lapse.

108 (vii) Any person practicing as a licensed
109 practical nurse during the time his or her license has lapsed
110 shall be considered an illegal practitioner and shall be subject
111 to the penalties provided for violation of this chapter, provided
112 the licensed practical nurse has not submitted the required
113 reinstatement form and fees within fifteen (15) days after
114 notification by the board of such lapse.

115 **SECTION 2.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
116 and after July 1, 2007.