

# **WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE**

## **2016 REGULAR SESSION**

**Introduced**

### **House Bill 4654**

(BY DELEGATES SUMMERS, CAMPBELL, ELLINGTON,

HOUSEHOLDER AND ROHRBACH)

[Introduced February 22, 2016;

referred to the Committee on

Government Organization.]



1 A BILL to amend and reenact §30-7-4 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating  
 2 to the Executive Secretary of the Board of Registered Professional Nurses; and removing  
 3 the executive secretary experience requirements.

*Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:*

1 That §30-7-4 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, be amended and reenacted  
 2 to read as follows:

**ARTICLE 7. REGISTERED PROFESSIONAL NURSES.**

**§30-7-4. Organization and meetings of board; quorum; powers and duties generally;  
 executive secretary; funds.**

1 The board shall meet at least once each year and shall elect from its members a president  
 2 and a secretary. The secretary shall also act as treasurer of the board. The board may hold ~~such~~  
 3 other meetings during the year as it ~~may deem~~ considers necessary to transact its business. A  
 4 majority, including one officer, of the board ~~shall constitute~~ is a quorum at any meeting. The board  
 5 ~~is hereby authorized and empowered to~~ may:

6 (a) Adopt and, from time to time, amend ~~such~~ rules, ~~and regulations~~ not inconsistent with  
 7 this article, ~~as may be necessary~~ to enable it to carry into effect the provisions of this article;

8 (b) Prescribe standards for educational programs preparing persons for licensure to  
 9 practice registered professional nursing under this article;

10 (c) Provide for surveys of ~~such~~ educational programs at ~~such time as it may deem~~ times  
 11 it considers necessary;

12 (d) Accredit ~~such~~ educational programs for the preparation of practitioners of registered  
 13 professional nursing ~~as shall~~ that meet the requirements of this article and of the board;

14 (e) Deny or withdraw accreditation of educational programs for failure to meet or maintain  
 15 prescribed standards required by this article and by the board;

16 (f) Examine, license and renew the licenses of duly qualified applicants;

17 (g) Conduct hearings upon charges calling for discipline of a licensee or revocation or  
18 suspension of a license;

19 (h) Keep a record of all proceedings of the board;

20 (i) Make a biennial report to the Governor;

21 (j) Appoint and employ a qualified person, who ~~shall~~ may not be a member of the board,  
22 to serve as executive secretary to the board;

23 (k) Define the duties and fix the compensation for the executive secretary; and

24 (l) Employ ~~such~~ other persons ~~as may be~~ necessary to carry on the work of the board.

25 ~~The executive secretary shall possess all of the qualifications prescribed in section three~~  
26 ~~for members of the board, except that he or she shall (a) have had at least eight years of~~  
27 ~~experience in the practice of registered professional nursing since graduation from a college or~~  
28 ~~university, at least five of which shall have been devoted to the teaching in or to the administration~~  
29 ~~of an educational program for the preparation of practitioners of registered nursing, or to a~~  
30 ~~combination of such teaching and administration, and (b) shall have been actively engaged in the~~  
31 ~~practice of registered professional nursing for at least five years preceding his or her appointment~~  
32 ~~by the board~~

33 All fees and other moneys collected by the board pursuant to the provisions of this article  
34 shall be kept in a separate fund and expended solely for the purpose of this article. No part of this  
35 special fund ~~shall revert~~ reverts to the General Funds of this state. The compensation provided  
36 by this article and all expenses incurred under this article shall be paid from this special fund. No  
37 compensation or expense incurred under this article ~~shall be~~ is a charge against the General  
38 Funds of this state.

NOTE: The purpose of this bill is to remove the Board of Registered Professional Nurses executive secretary's experience requirements.

Strike-throughs indicate language that would be stricken from a heading or the present law and underscoring indicates new language that would be added.