North Dakota Board of Nursing Agency Bill #

Nurse Practice Act Revision

Introduction

The North Dakota Board of Nursing underwent an analysis of the legal structure and practical operations of the Board. This analysis included a critical review of the statutes (practice act) and regulations, including the Workplace Impairment Program. In addition to the analysis the board compared the current statutes to the National Council State Board of Nursing Model Practice Act. The analysis indicated that the practice act should be updated. Over the years, there were pieces added into the practice act which were duplicative or were unclear.

The changes include revisions to the definitions to be more consistent with the NCSBN model rule and clarification of the process for licensure by exam for nurses graduating from out of state programs. The changes also include revision of the makeup of the board to include one Advanced Practice Nurse and one less LPN representative to reflect the large amount of growth in the number of APNs in ND over that last five years. Additional qualifications for board members were also included in the revision.

The revised Nurse Practice Act can be found at www.ndbon.org

Policy Recommendation

The North Dakota Center for Nursing supports the proposed revisions to the Nurse Practice Act.

Key Contact:

For more information about the proposed Nurse Practice Act revisions, contact

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www.ndcenterfornursing.org