

HB

276

Alaska State Legislature

Representative Peggy Wilson
Putting Alaska's Families First

MEMORANDUM

| | |
|-------|---|
| Date: | February 20, 2002 |
| To: | Representative Fred Dyson / HESS Chairman |
| From: | Representative Peggy Wilson <i>SW</i> |
| Re: | CSHB 276 |

Please schedule CSHB 276 before the HESS Committee for a hearing. This bill is essentially a "clean-up" bill related to delegation of nursing.

Attached are:

1. CSHB 276
2. Sponsor Statement
3. Letters of Support

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact my office.



Alaska State Legislature

*Representative Peggy Wilson
Putting Alaska's Families First*

SPONSOR STATEMENT - HB 276

HB 276 is essentially a "clean up bill" which brings nursing statutes up to date with current nursing practice in three areas: (1) gives licensed nurses the authority to delegate nursing duties to other personnel and gives the Board of Nursing authority to promulgate regulations outlining safe delegation practices to ensure safety of the consumer; (2) the bill increases the length of time available for a temporary nursing license from 4 to 6 months to allow for the extra time it may take to get back results of criminal justice background checks required in new regulation; (3) changes the wording placement regarding licensure by endorsement that brings the wording in the statute into compliance with what is already being done in the Division.

Delegation by licensed nurses of specific nursing tasks to unlicensed assistive personnel (UAPs) such as aides and technicians has always been a part of nursing practice. The health care delivery system that includes public health, Indian Health, hospitals, clinics and community nursing facilities will continue to use UAPs. These changes allow specific statutory authority for nurses to delegate essential care to the delivery of safe and effective health care to the citizens of Alaska. I urge you to support HB 276.

12/21/01

FISCAL NOTE

STATE OF ALASKA
2002 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Fiscal Note Number: 1
 Bill Version: CSHB 276(L&C)
 (H) Publish Date: 2/22/02

Revision Date/Time (Note if correction): _____ Dept. Affected: DCED
 Title An Act relating to temporary permits and licenses BRU: Occupational Licensing (117)
by endorsement issued by the Board of Nursing Component Occupational Licensing
 Sponsor Representative Wilson
 Requester House Labor & Commerce Component No. 2360

Expenditures/Revenues (Thousands of Dollars)

Note: Amounts do not include inflation unless otherwise noted below.

| OPERATING EXPENDITURES | FY 2003 | FY 2004 | FY 2005 | FY 2006 | FY 2007 | FY 2008 |
|------------------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|
| Personal Services | | | | | | |
| Travel | | | | | | |
| Contractual | | | | | | |
| Supplies | | | | | | |
| Equipment | | | | | | |
| Land & Structures | | | | | | |
| Grants & Claims | | | | | | |
| Miscellaneous | | | | | | |
| TOTAL OPERATING | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |

| | | | | | | |
|-----------------------------|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| CAPITAL EXPENDITURES | | | | | | |
|-----------------------------|--|--|--|--|--|--|

| | | | | | | |
|-------------------------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|
| CHANGE IN REVENUES () | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
|-------------------------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|

FUND SOURCE (Thousands of Dollars)

| FUND SOURCE | FY 2003 | FY 2004 | FY 2005 | FY 2006 | FY 2007 | FY 2008 |
|---|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|
| 1002 Federal Receipts | | | | | | |
| 1003 GF Match | | | | | | |
| 1004 GF | | | | | | |
| 1005 GF/Program Receipts | | | | | | |
| 1037 GF/Mental Health | | | | | | |
| Other (Specify Type--Do not abbreviate) | | | | | | |
| TOTAL | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |

Estimate of any current year (FY2002) cost: 0.0

Check this box (X) if funding for this bill is included in the Governor's FY 2003 budget proposal:

POSITIONS

| | | | | | | |
|-----------|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| Full-time | | | | | | |
| Part-time | | | | | | |
| Temporary | | | | | | |

ANALYSIS: (Attach a separate page if necessary)

New funds are not required to implement the changes of this bill.

Prepared by: Jennifer Strickler, Administrative Manager
 Division: Occupational Licensing
 Approved by: Deborah B. Sedwick, Commissioner
 Agency: Department of Community & Economic Development

Phone (907) 465-2144
 Date/Time 2/15/02 2:46 PM
 Date 2/15/2002

Alaska State Hospital & Nursing Home Association

We're helping people care for people!

February 15, 2002

Representative Peggy Wilson
Alaska State Legislature
State Capitol, Room 409
Juneau AK 99801-1182

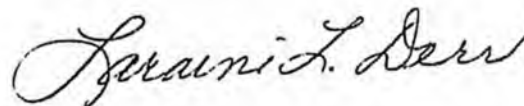
Dear Rep Wilson:

The House Labor and Commerce Committee will be hearing HB 276 on February 20, 2002. As the president of the Alaska State Hospital and Nursing Home Association (ASHNHA), I am writing a letter of support for the CS for House Bill No. 276, "An Act relating to temporary permits and licenses by endorsement issued by the Board of Nursing; and relating to the delegation of nursing duties."

This bill will put into law what has always been a part of nursing practice. The bill gives licensed nurses the authority to delegate nursing duties to other personnel and give the Board of Nursing authority to set out regulations to outline safe delegation of their duties. Because there is such a severe shortage in the nursing profession, extending the temporary nursing license from 4 to 6 months will allow extra time. Any help in this area will be greatly appreciated.

ASHNHA is an organization of 34 healthcare providers around the state of Alaska. We believe that passage of this legislation will allow for better health care delivery to our citizens.

Sincerely yours,



Laraine L. Derr
President/CEO

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Elizabeth Engle, RN BSN
ASNA President

To: Representative Peggy Wilson

Thank you for introducing HB 276. Nursing is a complex and often poorly understood profession, and in our efforts to meet the health needs of Alaska, we often encounter difficult and frustrating situations. This bill will help to clarify some of those issues, and give some authority in decision making to those who understand the ramifications of those decisions the best.

The Alaska School Nurse Association supports this bill.

Elizabeth Engle, RN, BSN
President, ASNA

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Elizabeth Engle", is written over a large, faint, dotted watermark of the Alaska School Nurses Association logo.



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February 14, 2002

Honorable Peggy Wilson
State Capitol, Room 409
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1121

Dear Representative Wilson:

We are writing this letter in support of the CS for HB 276, "An Act relating to temporary permits and licenses by endorsement issued by the Board of Nursing; and relating to the delegation of nursing duties." This bill brings the nursing statutes up to date with current nursing practice in the areas of delegation of nursing duties and the issuance of temporary licenses and licenses by endorsement.

Over the last ten years there has been an increase in the number and type of ancillary unlicensed health care workers that RNs and LPNs are required to delegate nursing duties to and have oversight of the work they perform. The Attorney General's office recently ruled that the existing statutes do not give the Board of Nursing the authority to promulgate regulations covering delegation of nursing duties to persons other than nursing assistants.

It is imperative that RNs and LPNs have regulations from the Board of Nursing covering delegation of nursing tasks. Nurses rarely hire or train the unlicensed personnel they are required to work with, yet their employers require nurses to make sure these persons perform the tasks delegated to them in a safe and accurate manner. Because these individuals are unlicensed, there is no regulatory body overseeing their training and competency. Nurses need the backing of the regulations promulgated by the Board of Nursing so that they can delegate in a manner that maintains the health and safety of their patients.

The sections of CS for HB 276 which deal with temporary nursing licenses would extend the length of license from 4 to 6 months which would allow the Board of Nursing to complete necessary background checks. The section of the Bill dealing with license by endorsement would bring the statute into compliance with current practice of the Board concerning applicants who have not worked as a nurse in the past five years.

The Alaska Nurses Association is in full support of CS for HB 276.

Sincerely,

Patricia Senner MS, RN, ANP

FEB 19 2002

