

ALASKA LEGISLATURE COMMITTEE FILES 1991-1992 8672
7586 SENATE LABOR & COMMERCE

CS FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 158 (L&C) am
IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA
SEVENTEENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

BY THE HOUSE LABOR AND COMMERCE COMMITTEE

Amended: 5/10/91

Offered: 4/26/91

Referred: Rules

Sponsor(s): REPRESENTATIVES KOPONEN, Ellis, Moyer, Sharp, M.A.Miller

A BILL

FOR AN ACT ENTITLED

1 "An Act relating to the licensing requirements for architects, engineers, and land
 2 surveyors."

3 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:**

4 * Section 1. AS 08.48.331 is amended to read:

5 Sec. 08.48.331. EXEMPTIONS. This chapter does not apply to

6 (1) a contractor performing work designed by a professional architect or engineer
 7 or the supervision of the construction of the work as a supervisor or superintendent for a
 8 contractor;

9 (2) workers in building trades crafts, superintendents, supervisors, or inspectors
 10 in the performance of their customary duties;

11 (3) an officer or employee of the United States government practicing architecture,
 12 engineering, or land surveying as required by the person's official capacity;

13 (4) an employee or a subordinate of a person registered under this chapter if the
 14 work or service is done under the direct supervision of a person registered under this chapter;

1 (5) associates, consultants, or specialists retained by a registered individual, a
2 partnership of registered individuals, or a corporation authorized to practice architecture,
3 engineering, or land surveying under this chapter, in the performance of professional services if
4 responsible charge of the work remains with the individual, the partnership, or a designated
5 representative of the corporation;

6 (6) a person preparing drawings or specifications for

7 (A) a building for the person's own use and occupancy as a single family
8 residence;

9 (B) farm or ranch buildings, unless the public health, safety, or welfare
10 is involved;

11 (C) a building that is intended to be used only as a residence by not more
12 than four families and that is not more than two stories high;

13 (D) a garage, workshop, or similar building that contains less than 2,000
14 square feet of floor space to be used for a private noncommercial purpose;

15 (7) a specialty contractor licensed under AS 08.18 while engaged in the business
16 of construction contracting or designing systems for work within the specialty to be performed
17 or supervised by the specialty contractor, or a contractor preparing shop or field drawings for
18 work that the specialty contractor has contracted to perform;

19 (8) a person furnishing drawings, specifications, instruments of service, or other
20 data for alterations or repairs to a building that do not change or affect the structural system or
21 the safety of the building, or that do not affect the public health, safety, or welfare;

22 (9) a person who is employed by a postsecondary educational institution to
23 teach engineering, architectural, or land surveying courses; in this paragraph,
24 "postsecondary educational institution" has the meaning given in AS 14.48.210.

25 * Sec. 2. AS 08.48.255 is repealed.

HB

165



COMPREHENSIVE MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

Please reply to:

230 E. Paulson, Wasilla, AK 99687
(907) 376-2411 FAX No. 907-376-1626

847 W. Evergreen, Palmer, AK 99645
(907) 745-1000 FAX No. 907-745-6126

P.O. Box 787, Talkeetna, AK 99676
(907) 733-2274 FAX No. 907-733-1222

March 12, 1992

Senator Drue Pearce
Alaska State Legislature
PO Box V (MS 3100)
Juneau, Alaska 99811

Dear Senator Pearce,

As you are aware, the Governor has appointed a task force to evaluate all Boards and Commissions. As a result, HB 165, which renews the Alaska Board of Nursing for four years, remains in the Labor & Commerce Committee. If HB 165 is not approved, the Board will cease to exist.

As a registered nurse, I urge you to support HB 165, and vote for full renewal for the Board of Nursing. As one of approximately 5,000 RNs in the state, I know how effective the board has been in implementing the Alaska Nurse Practice Act. The regulations written and approved by the Board are well respected and emulated throughout the country.

The Board has a major role in protecting the public from receiving care from unqualified or impaired nurses. The present structure allows for rapid, unbiased investigation and fair disciplinary action. A board with less equitable representation from the full range of nursing practice would be slower to respond to complaints from the public, as consultation from outside experts would have to be obtained.

My personal experience with the Board as a Psychiatric Nurse Practitioner has been very positive. The state of Alaska has a large demand for psychiatric services. The agency where I work books psychiatrists time three to four weeks in advance. Psychiatric Nurse Practitioners have made it possible to evaluate clients in a more timely fashion, monitor medications more closely and offer follow-up care more frequently. The Board of Nursing played a key role in helping me to clarify scope of practice issues and in assisting me to be the most effective practitioner I can be. I speak to the Executive Secretary of the Board of Nursing several

Senator Pearce
March 12, 1992
Page 2

times a month and my questions are answered in a timely fashion. Nurses know nursing practice better than anyone. Your vote in granting the Board of Nursing full renewal allows the nursing community to continue to deliver safe, cost effective, quality health care to all Alaskans.

Sincerely,

Tracy Freer

Tracy Freer, MS, RN, CS, ANP
Psychiatric Nurse Practitioner



Alaska
Nurses
Association

237 East Third Avenue
Anchorage, Alaska 99501
(907) 274-0827

... a constituent of American Nurses' Association

March 12, 1992

Governor Walter J. Hickel
P.O. Box A
Juneau, Alaska 99811-0001

Dear Governor Hickel:

On March 11, 1992, the Board of Directors of the Alaska Nurses Association voted to support an increase in the biennial license fee for registered nurses in order to create a financially self-supported Alaska Board of Nursing.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Patricia A. Hong".

Patricia A. Hong, MA, RN, CCRN
President

cc: Ann Boudreaux, Director, Division of Occupational Licensing
Gail Stewart, RN, ANP, Chair, Board of Nursing
Representative Mark Hanley, Governor's Task Force on Boards
and Commissions

March 19, 1992

Dear Senator Pearce,

As you are aware, the Governor has appointed a task force to evaluate all Boards & Commissions. As a result, HB 1165, which renews the AK Board of Nursing for 4 years, remains in your committee. If we do not get HB 1165 approved, our Board of Nursing will cease to exist.

I am an RN and I do NOT want this to happen. The BRN is an essential part of our profession and represents over 5,000 RN's. The Board is our quality assurance. It determines education programs as well as reviewing regulations related to our Nurses Practice Act which are our scope of practice, guidelines and under which RN's practice.

If the BRN ceases to exist then all of the services that it presently provides; the NCLEX exam, peer review, impaired nurse program, regulations and standards, will have to be contracted out to an outside agency at a possible higher cost to our State. Why dismantle a cost effective and known program for an unknown?

Consumers of nursing care need to be assured of the quality of that care. Our Board of Nursing guarantees that licenses are issued only to those qualified applicants.

I ask that you carefully review this issue and vote to renew our Board of Registered Nursing. Thank-you for your attention.

Sincerely,

Judy Richards RN
Hospice & Home Care of
Sitka

P.S. Please pass this letter around to the other committee members.

J. Richards
9180 N. Douglas Hwy
Juneau AK 99801

PM
MAY 3
1992



Senator Pearce
State Capitol Rm. 101
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

hold 44 next T. F. mtg.

M.C. 2 4 1992

March 20, 1992

Dear Senator Pearce,

You may or may not recognize my name. I'm Pat Simons, a past constituent, who was your liaison for the Anchorage/Alaska PTAs about a year and a half ago. I now live with my husband in Glasgow, Scotland, on a BP secondment assignment. We still consider Alaska our home and we take a keen interest in current events of the state.

I am also a Registered Nurse. I received a letter from the Alaska Nurses Association that described a current move toward replacing the Alaska Board of Nursing with a "Super Board". I can tell you that I was alarmed that this has a very real possibility of occurring. The present Board advised that we write and explain in our own words why this is not a good idea.

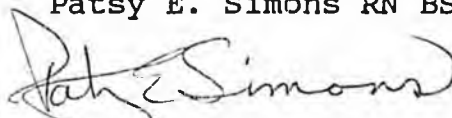
The sheer numbers of nurses in the state alone, would indicate a need for special governance and representation. In addition, there is the issue of the uniqueness of our role in healthcare for the public; not to mention the very diverse services that we provide. You will find nurses working on multiple levels of healthcare throughout the state and with all socio-economic groups. In many incidences, nurses work directly or representatively in areas where physicians, dentists, pharmacists, and ancillary healthcare providers do not. This is a fact that I hope Statespeople and nurses, Virginia Collins and Bette Davis, will attest to.

I understand that the state is making financial cut-backs. I will assume that the grouping of medical professionals under one Board is part of this movement. I would caution against any hasty action without understanding the implications for nurses and the public they serve. Nursing continues to provide many varied basic and specialized services to the public at very reasonable rates. The range of skills, experience and enhanced accessibility to healthcare should be considered. I'm sure that the Alaska Board of Nursing can offer you more detailed information regarding the broad points I've mentioned above.

Lastly, Nurses are independent practioners, who are associated with, but different from, other medical fields of practice. I am asking that you pursue HB 165, Extension of the Board of Nursing.

Thank you for your consideration.

Patsy E. Simons RN BS

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Patsy E. Simons".

5 Lethington Road
Whitecraigs
Glasgow, Scotland
G46 6TA

Simons
Shetkington
Whiteridge
Glasgow, Scotland
G466TA

By air mail
Par avion



Senator Dore Pearce, Chair
Labor and Commerce Committee
State Capital
Juneau, Ak 99811
USA

MAR 31 1992

Senator Drue Pearce
Alaska State Legislature
P.O. Box V (MS 3100)
Juneau, Alaska 99811

Date: 3/23/92

Dear Senator Pearce,

As you are aware, the Governor has appointed a task force to evaluate all Boards and Commissions. As a result, HB 165, which renews the Alaska Board of Nursing for four years, remains in the Labor and Commerce Committee. If HB 165 is not approved, the Board will cease to exist.

As a registered nurse, I urge you to support HB 165, and vote for full renewal for the Board of Nursing. As one of approximately 5,000 RNs in the state, I know how effective the board has been in implementing the Alaska Nurse Practice Act. The regulations written and approved by the Board are well respected and emulate throughout the country.

The Board has a major role in protecting the public from receiving care from unqualified or impaired nurses. The present structure allows for rapid, unbiased investigation and fair disciplinary action. A board with less equitable representation from the full range of nursing practice would be slower to respond to complaints from the public, as consultation from outside experts would have to be obtained.

Your vote in granting the Board of Nursing full renewal allows the nursing community to continue to deliver safe, quality health care to all Alaskans.

Sincerely,

Carol Taylor
Carol Taylor
P.O. Box 87539
Wasilla, AK 99687

MAR 27 1992

Senator Drue Pearce
Alaska State Legislature
P.O. Box V (MS 3100)
Juneau, Alaska 99811

Date: 3/23/92

Dear Senator Pearce,

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Your vote in granting the Board of Nursing full renewal allows the nursing community to continue to deliver safe, quality health care to all Alaskans.

Sincerely,

S. L. Reed

HB 165

Palmer, AK 99845

PUBLIC OPINION MESSAGE

DEAR: SENATOR PEARCE

NAME: RICK BLODGETT
TITLE:
ADDRESS: BOX 532
CITY: TELLER ZIP: 99778
PHONE: 642-3333
BILL NO: SB 433
SUBJECT: REGISTRATION OF PRIVATE AIRCRAFT
MESSAGE: I AM IN OPPOSITION OF AIRCRAFT TAXATION. AIRCRAFT IS OUR LIFE LINE.
TAXATION AND REGULATIONS ARE KILLING AVIATION./CMR

POMID: 03101956
DATE: 92/03/13
TIME: 10:19:56
LIONAME: ANCHORAGE LIO

COPIES: REPRESENTATIVES REPRESENTATIVES SENATORS

BAKER	BARNES	ADAMS
BOYER	BROWN	COLLINS
BRUCKMAN	CARNEY	COTTEN
CHOQUETTE	DAVIDSON	CRAFT
B.DAVIS	C.DAVIS	DUNCAN
DONLEY	ELLIS	ELIASON
FINKELSTEIN	FOSTER	FISCHER
GONZALES	GRUENBERG	FRANK
GRUSSENDORF	HANLEY	HALFORD
HUDSON	IVAN	HOFFMAN
JACKO	KOPONEN	JONES
KUSINA	LARSON	KERTTULA
LEMAN	LINCOLN	MENARD
MACKIE	MACLEAN	POURCHOT
MARTIN	M.A.MILLER	RODEY
M.H.MILLER	MOYER	SHULTZ
NAVARRE	PARNELL	STURGULENSKI
G.PHILLIPS	R.PHILLIPS	UEHLING
SHARP	TAYLOR	ZHAROFF
ULMER	ZAHACKI	

PUBLIC OPINION MESSAGE

DEAR: SENATOR PEARCE

NAME: JEANNE MOLITOR
TITLE:
ADDRESS: 5740 E. 98TH
CITY: ANCHORAGE ZIP: 99516
PHONE: 346-3459
BILL NO: HB 165
SUBJECT: EXTEND BOARD OF NURSING
MESSAGE: I ENCOURAGE YOU TO KEEP THE BOARD OF NURSING INTACT AND SEPARATE FROM
THE OTHER LICENSING BOARDS. /BN

POMID: 03100449
DATE: 92/03/13
TIME: 10:04:49
LIONAME: ANCHORAGE LIO

Answer



From the desk of:
Rod Mourant
Senator Drue Pearce's Office
P.O. Box V
Juneau, AK 99811
Capitol, Room 101
(907) 465-4993

PLEASE CALL DONNA
MEINERS; A LOCAL NURSE,
WHEN THIS BILL IS
SCHEDULED.

789-4748

Senator Drue Pearce
Alaska State Legislature
P.O. Box V (MS 3100)
Juneau, Alaska 99811

Date: 3/23/92

Dear Senator Pearce,

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As a registered nurse, I urge you to support HB 165, and vote for full renewal for the Board of Nursing. As one of approximately 5,000 RNs in the state, I know how effective the board has been in implementing the Alaska Nurse Practice Act. The regulations written and approved by the Board are well respected and emulate throughout the country.

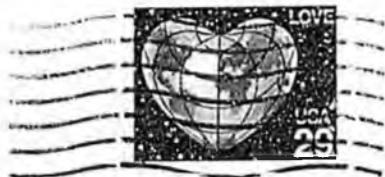
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Your vote in granting the Board of Nursing full renewal allows the nursing community to continue to deliver safe, quality health care to all Alaskans.

Sincerely,

Janice C. Barrett R.N.
School Nurse

Janice C. Barrett RN.
14004 Box 9798
Palmer, AK 99645



Senator Bruce Pease
Alaska State Legislature
PO Box 1 (711 S 3100)
Juneau, AK, 99811

MAR 31 1992

Senator Drue Pearce
Alaska State Legislature
P.O. Box V (MS 3100)
Juneau, Alaska 99811

Date: 3/23/92

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Your vote in granting the Board of Nursing full renewal allows the nursing community to continue to deliver safe, quality health care to all Alaskans.

Sincerely,

Mary Moeglein RN

Mary Moeglein
P.O. Box 813146
Wasilla, AK 99687



Senator Arue Pearce
Alaska State Legislature
P.O. Box V (MS 3100)
Juneau, AK 99811

MAR 31 1992

Senator Drue Pearce
Alaska State Legislature
P.O. Box V (MS 3100)
Juneau, Alaska 99811

Date: 3/23/92

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Your vote in granting the Board of Nursing full renewal allows the nursing community to continue to deliver safe, quality health care to all Alaskans.

Sincerely,

Margaret Volz, R.N.

Mat. Su School Nurse

Margaret Votz
PO Box 521456
Big Lake, AK
99652



Senator Steve Pearce
Alaska State Legislature
P.O. Box V
Juneau, AK 99811

APR 3 1992

Senator Drue Pearce
Alaska State Legislature
P.O. Box V (MS 3100)
Juneau, Alaska 99811

Date: 3/23/92

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Your vote in granting the Board of Nursing full renewal allows the nursing community to continue to deliver safe, quality health care to all Alaskans.

Sincerely,

*Jeani M. Miller, RN
Wanilla Highnurse*

*Quilchik, RN
2300 Coopers Cir.
Wanilla, AK
99654*

APR 13 1992

Senator Drue Pearce
Alaska State Legislature
P.O. Box V (MS 3100)
Juneau, Alaska 99811

Date: 3/23/92

Dear Senator Pearce,

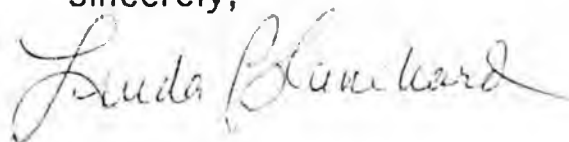
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Your vote in granting the Board of Nursing full renewal allows the nursing community to continue to deliver safe, quality health care to all Alaskans.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Linda Blumhard". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned below the typed name "Linda Blumhard".

Senator Drue Pearce
Alaska State Legislature
P.O. Box V (MS 3100)
Juneau, Alaska 99811

Date: 3/23/92

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Sincerely,

Julie Fleming, R.N.
Charlene Surman, R.N.

Boyer 7 1992
Steph-
Nurses
let's,
pls.
B

Nancy M. Hardman, BSRN
P.O. Box 772781
Eagle River, AK 99577

March 23, 1992

Senator Drew Pearce, Chairman
Senate Labor and Commerce Committee
Alaska State Legislature
State Capitol
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

Dear Senator:

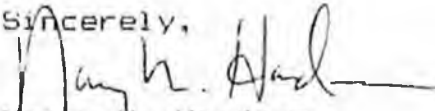
As a registered nurse I strongly object to the recommendation that the Board of Nursing be combined with other health professional boards into a consolidated Citizen's Health Board. Nurses have fought long and hard for their autonomy and, through the existing Board of Nursing, have done a good job of protecting the public health and safety, developing reasonable and uniform standards of nursing practice, and facilitating an adequate supply of nurses to meet the health care needs within the state while assuring that competent nurses provide this care.

Does Alaska really want to be the only state in the U.S. to allow adoption of a proposal which removes the governing power from the professionals who possess the knowledge so important to determine their own standards of practice? It would be equally ridiculous to propose that nurses dictate the standards for physicians, or auto mechanics, or electricians.

The abolition of this independent Board of Nursing threatens not just the quality of health care provided by nurses, but also endangers the very existence of independent nurse practitioners and certified nurse midwives who competently provide alternative health care needs so very important in this time of escalating health-care costs.

In 1991 the sunset review process, established to perform independent audits and ensure that a regulatory board functions in the manner for which it was created, recommended an eight-year extension of the Board of Nursing rather than the traditional four-year extension.

I urge you to support HB 165 which would allow for the extension of the Board of Nursing in the Department of Commerce and Economic Development, thus allowing for the continued provision of excellent care so well deserved by the citizens of Alaska.

Sincerely,

Nancy M. Hardman
Registered Nurse

MAR 27 1992

March 24, 1992
Senator Drue Pearce
Alaska State Legislature
P.O. Box V (MS3100)
Juneau, AK 99811

Dear Senator Pearce,

As you are aware, the Governor has appointed a task force to evaluate all Boards and Commissions. As a result, HB 165, which renews the Alaska Board of Nursing for four years, remains in the Labor & Commerce Committee. If HB 165 is not approved, the Board will cease to exist.

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Your vote in granting the Board of Nursing full renewal allows the nursing community to continue to deliver safe, quality health care to all Alaskans.

Sincerely,

Rosemary A. Timmerman R.N., CCRN

Rosemary A. Timmerman R.N., CCRN
P.O. Box 520153
Big Lake, AK 99652

MAR 31 1992

March 24, 1992

Senator Drue Pearce
Labor and Commerce Committee
State Capital
Juneau, AK. 99811

Dear Drue Pearce:

I am a registered nurse writing to urge you to vote for full renewal of the Alaska Board of Nursing. The board as it is has been effective in its ability to govern and implement the Nurse Practice Act for over 5,000 nurses statewide. This must continue for quality nursing services in Alaska!! Together with the high volume of nurses and the complexity of nursing it is necessary for nurses to have their own Board (ie nursing--administration, education, Nurse Practitioners, staff & charge nurses--RN's & LPN's--supervisors, bush nursing, nurses aides/assistants and public health nursing.) As a board of nursing rapid and fair disciplinary action is possible. This would not be possible with a combined board as the knowledge base would not be available or would involve long prolonged research before action could be taken.

Other professions with smaller numbers of licensed members (MD's, Pharmacists etc) may be able to be a combined board. These do not have the complexity of various levels of function as nursing has. Nursing needs the Board of Nursing as it is now. Please vote to continue the Alaska Board of Nursing. Support HB 165!!! Thank you for your support.

Lorayne Embretson RN

Embretson/Cummings
2460 Chandalar Drive
Anchorage, AK 99504



Senator Duce Pearce
Labor and Commerce Committee
State Capital
Juneau, AK. 99811

Vicky Phillips
1625 Dolina Circle
Anchorage, AK
99508

Drue Pearce, Senator
Chair Senate Labor and Commerce Committee
Room 101, P.O. Box V
Juneau, Alaska

99811-1182

4/7/92

Dear Senator Pearce,

I am writing to express my concern over the possible dissolution of the Alaska Board of Nursing. I have been a registered nurse since 1976 and believe it is very important to have a state board of nursing. The state board of nursing protects the public through the approval process for schools of nursing, examination of applicants, regulating specialty practice (i.e. advanced nurse practitioners) and bringing disciplinary action against those who violate the practice act.

Nursing must regulate nursing practice. The current organization provides for shared services within the Division of Occupational Licensing. Nursing has only one paid staff member (the Executive Secretary) which is very cost effective. Nurses comprise 20% of the licenses in Alaska. Since there are approximately 5,000 licenses issued (@ \$90⁰⁰ each), registered nurses contribute \$450,000 biannually.

The Board of Nursing has existed since 1941 and I strongly support continuation of the Board of Nursing.

Sincerely yours,
Vicky Phillips RN
Supervisor Providence Hospital

April 7, 1992

Senator Drue Pearce
Alaska State Legislature
Juneau, Alaska 99811-0001

Dear Senator Pearce:

I have reviewed the recommendation that the Board of Nursing be combined with several other professional boards into one consolidated Citizens Health Board, and I strongly object to that recommendation. My reasons and concerns for this objection include the following:

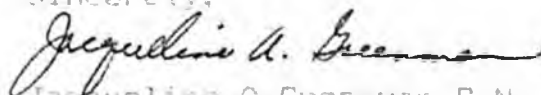
1. The regulation of nursing practice is a very complex task, and is necessary to protect the public's health. The Board of Nursing accomplishes this in several ways.
 - * It assures that licensed nurses are competent to provide safe and effective nursing care to the public.
 - * It develops reasonable and uniform standards for nursing practice.
 - * It facilitates an adequate supply of nurses to meet the health care needs within Alaska.
2. The Board approves curricula and standards for nursing education programs.
3. The Board investigates alleged violation of the Nurse Practice Act, and takes disciplinary action.
4. Such a multi-professional board would be unwieldy in accomplishing the multiple roles that are essential for safe nursing practice in Alaska. It would also be difficult to have these roles done in a timely manner.

The sunset review process was established to ensure that a regulatory board functions in the manner for which it was created. The independent audit which was completed in 1991 found that the Board of Nursing was functioning well in it's role.

It should also be noted that during F.Y. 1990 and 1991 about seventy five (75) percent of the annual cost for Nursing Board activities was covered by revenue generated from nursing licensure fees. The potential for full financial support of the Board of Nursing is there.

As a professional who has worked in the field of public health in Alaska for 34 years I have seen dramatic improvements. I strongly urge that the Board of Nursing be renewed so that all citizens of Alaska can continue to receive good and safe nursing care.

Sincerely,



Jacqueline A. Greenman R.N., M.P.H.

April 7, 1992

Senator Drue Pearce
Alaska State Legislature
Juneau, Alaska 99811-0001

3127 Pleasant Dr.
Anch. Alaska 99502

Dear Senator Pearce:

I have reviewed the recommendation that the Board of Nursing be combined with several other professional boards into one consolidated Citizens Health Board, and I strongly object to that recommendation. My reasons and concerns for this objection include the following:

1. The regulation of nursing practice is a very complex task, and is necessary to protect the public's health. The Board of Nursing accomplishes this in several ways.
 - * It assures that licensed nurses are competent to provide safe and effective nursing care to the public.
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As a professional who has worked in the field of public health in Alaska for 34 years I have seen dramatic improvements. I strongly urge that the Board of Nursing be renewed so that all citizens of Alaska can continue to receive good and safe nursing care.

Sincerely,

Anna Belle Engbers RN

AnnaBelle Engbers R.N., B.S.

APR 14 1992

Marjorie VanKooten
3127 Pleasant Hill
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

Senator Drue Pearce
Alaska State Legislature
Juneau, Alaska 99811-0001

Dear Senator Pearce:

I have reviewed the recommendation that the Board of Nursing be combined with several other professional boards into one consolidated Citizens Health Board, and I strongly object to that recommendation. My reasons and concerns for this objection include the following:

1. The regulation of nursing practice is a very complex task, and is necessary to protect the public's health. The Board of Nursing accomplishes this in several ways.
 - * It assures that licensed nurses are competent to provide safe and effective nursing care to the public.
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As a professional who has worked in the field of public health in Alaska for 34 years I have seen dramatic improvements. I strongly urge that the Board of Nursing be renewed so that all citizens of Alaska can continue to receive good and safe nursing care.

Sincerely,

Marjorie VanKooten, RN

Marjorie VanKooten R.N.

Walter J. Hickel
GOVERNOR



APR 16 1992
PHONE
(907) 561-4227

STATE OF ALASKA
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

Governor's Commission
On Children & Youth
3601 C St, Suite 742
Anchorage, AK 99503

April 10, 1992

Senator Drue Pearce
Senate Labor & Commerce Committee
Alaska State Legislature
State Capitol
Juneau, Ak 99801-1182

Dear Senator Pearce:

Young residents are particularly at risk because 90% of smokers begin cigarette addiction before they reach the age of 19.

In our small state we continue to loose many people to cigarette related deaths because of the early start up of children smoking. Cigarettes cause more premature death than AIDS or the use of heroin.

The Commission supports the passage of CSHB84 as a practical method of deterring children from smoking cigarettes.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Glenn Ralls".

Glenne Ralls
Commission on Children and Youth

cc: Senator Collins
Senator Eliason
Senator Halford
Senator Kerttula



Alaska
Nurses
Association

237 East Third Avenue
Anchorage, Alaska 99501
(907) 274-0827

... a constituent of American Nurses' Association

April 24, 1992

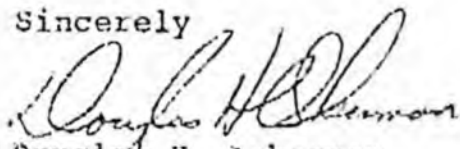
Senator Drue Pearce
Alaska State Senate
State Capitol
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

Dear Senator Pearce:

The Alaska Nurses Association understands that HB 165 (relating to the Board of Nursing) will be heard in the Senate Labor & Commerce Committee on Friday May 1, 1992. It is also our understanding that HB 382 (relating to the Practice of Midwifery) will be heard in the same committee on Wed, April 29, 1992. As I am sure you are aware both of these bills are of importance to our membership.

The Association requests the opportunity for Teleconferencing of HB 165 in both Anchorage and Fairbanks. Additionally we request the opportunity for Teleconferencing of HB 382 in Anchorage.

Sincerely


Douglas H. Askerman
Executive Director

Nursing's Agenda for Health Care Reform

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

America's nurses have long supported our nation's efforts to create a health care system that assures access, quality, and services at affordable costs. This document presents nursing's agenda for immediate health care reform. We call for a basic "core" of essential health care services to be available to everyone. We call for a restructured health care system that will focus on the consumers and their health, with services to be delivered in familiar, convenient sites, such as schools, workplaces, and homes. We call for a shift from the predominant focus on illness and cure to an orientation toward wellness and care. The basic components of nursing's "core of care" include:

- A restructured health care system which:
 - Enhances consumer access to services by delivering primary health care in community-based settings.
 - Fosters consumer responsibility for personal health, self care, and informed decision making in selecting health care services.
 - Facilitates utilization of the most cost-effective providers and therapeutic options in the most appropriate settings.
- A federally-defined standard package of essential health care services available to all citizens and residents of the United States, provided and financed through an integration of public and private plans and sources:
 - A public plan, based on federal guidelines and eligibility requirements, will provide coverage for the poor and create the opportunity for small businesses and individuals, particularly those at risk because of preexisting conditions and those potentially medically indigent, to buy into the plan.
 - A private plan will offer, at a minimum, the nationally standardized package of essential services. This standard package could be enriched as a benefit of employment or individuals could purchase additional services if they so choose. If employers do not offer private coverage, they must pay into the public plan for their employees.
- A phase-in of essential services, in order to be fiscally responsible:
 - Coverage of pregnant women and children is critical. This first step represents a cost-effective investment in the future health and prosperity of the nation.
 - One early step will be to design services specifically to assist vulnerable populations who have had limited access to our nation's health care system. A "Healthstart Plan" is proposed to improve the health status of these individuals.
- Planned change to anticipate health service needs that correlate with changing national demographics.
- Steps to reduce health care costs include:
 - Required usage of managed care in the public plan and encouraged in private plans.
 - Incentives for consumers and providers to utilize managed care arrangements.
 - Controlled growth of the health care system through planning and prudent resource allocation.
 - Incentives for consumers and providers to be more cost efficient in exercising health care options.
 - Development of health care policies based on effectiveness and outcomes research.
 - Assurance of direct access to a full range of qualified providers.
 - Elimination of unnecessary bureaucratic controls and administrative procedures.
- Case management will be required for those with continuing health care needs. Case management will reduce the fragmentation of the present system, promote consumers' active participation in decisions about their health, and create an advocate on their behalf.
- Provisions for long-term care, which include:
 - Public and private funding for services of short duration to prevent personal impoverishment.
 - Public funding for extended care if consumer resources are exhausted.
 - Emphasis on the consumers' responsibility to financially plan for their long-term care needs, including new personal financial alternatives and strengthened private insurance arrangements.
- Insurance reforms to assure improved access to coverage, including affordable premiums, reinsurance pools for catastrophic coverage, and other steps to protect both insurers and individuals against excessive costs.
- Access to services assured by no payment at the point of service and elimination of balance billing in both public and private plans.
- Establishment of public/private sector review -- operating under federal guidelines and including payers, providers, and consumers -- to determine resource allocation, cost reduction approaches, allowable insurance premiums, and fair and consistent reimbursement levels for providers. This review would progress in a climate sensitive to ethical issues.

Additional resources will be required to accomplish this plan. While significant dollars can be obtained through restructuring and other strategies, responsibility for any new funds must be shared by individuals, employers, and government, phased in over several years to minimize the impact.

1992 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Revision Date: 04/27/92 Department Affected: Commerce & Economic Development
 Title: An Act extending the Board of Nursing... BRU: Occupational Licensing
 Component: Administration

Sponsor: House Rules/GovernorRequestor: Senate Labor & CommerceCOMPONENT SERIAL NO.

0	3	5	6
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Expenditures/Revenues: (Thousands of Dollars)

OPERATING	FY 93	FY 94	FY 95	FY 96	FY 97	FY 98
PERSONAL SERVICES	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
TRAVEL	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
CONTRACTUAL	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
SUPPLIES	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
EQUIPMENT	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
LAND & STRUCTURES	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
GRANTS, CLAIMS	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
MISCELLANEOUS	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
TOTAL OPERATING	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

CAPITAL	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
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REVENUE	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
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FUNDING: (Thousands of Dollars)

GENERAL FUND	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
FEDERAL FUNDS	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
OTHER	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
TOTAL	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

POSITIONS:

FULL-TIME	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
PART-TIME	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
TEMPORARY	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Estimate of current year impact: None

ANALYSIS: (Attach a separate page if necessary)

Funding for the Board of Nursing is included in the department's FY 93 operating budget request and, therefore, new funds are not required. Estimated costs for the Board of Nursing are explained on the attached page.

Prepared By: Jennifer Strickler *CS* Phone: 465-2144Division: Occupational Licensing Date: 04/27/92Approved by Commissioner: Glenn A. Olds *Glenn A. Olds*Agency: Department of Commerce & Economic Development Date: 4-29-92

Distribution (by preparer): Legislative Finance, Legislative Sponsor, Requestor, OMB, & Impacted Agency(ies).

CONTINUATION OF FISCAL NOTE ANALYSIS - HB 165

The Division of Occupational Licensing, Department of Commerce & Economic Development, is funded primarily by program receipts generated from licensing fees. All licensing programs share in the responsibility of covering administrative costs which are based on the number of current program licensees divided by the total number of current division licensees plus, the direct program costs.

BOARD OF NURSING

Average Annual Cost: \$ 457.6

Average Annual Revenue: \$ 346.8

The Division of Occupational Licensing is currently working on a regulation project that will adjust licensing fees so that revenue will cover or come close to reflecting the entire costs of administering the program.

HB 165: "An Act extending the Board of Nursing in the Department of Commerce and Economic Development; and providing for an effective date."

The Board of Nursing is responsible for the regulation and licensing of the nursing profession in the state. Under AS 08.03.010(c)(15), the Board of Nursing terminated on June 30, 1991. HB 165 will extend the termination date of the board to June 30, 1995. The statutory authority in Section 1 of the bill requires a correction to reflect the appropriate subsection for the Board of Nursing which should read: AS 08.03.010(c)(15).

There are approximately 6,169 nurses licensed in Alaska. The department concurs with the findings documented in the performance audit conducted by the Division of Legislative Audit; in particular, that the board is necessary to protect the public's health, safety, and welfare, therefore, the board should be reestablished.

The department strongly supports continuation of the Board of Nursing and requests favorable support in passage of HB 165.

Glenn A. Olds Asst Comm

Glenn A. Olds, Commissioner

Date: 4-29-92

ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE
HOUSE BILL NO. 165

HISTORY IN THE HOUSE

1991

2/25 Read first time and referred to:
HES L&C FIN

4/22 HES RPT CS() New Title
6 DP DNP NR AM
FN OFN Previous FN

5/3 L&C RPT CS() New Title
5 DP DNP NR AM
FN OFN Previous FN

5/10 FIN RPT CS() New Title
10 DP DNP NR AM
FN OFN Previous FN

5/13 Read second time
CS() Adopted

Amended
5/13 NOT advanced

5/14 Advanced

5/14 Read third time

Return to second for specific amendment

5/14

PASSED	EFD Same <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> or
Yeas 39	Yeas
Nays 2	Nays
Excused 1	Excused
Absent 0	Absent

Intent adopted

Reconsideration
Reconsideration not taken up

PASSED ON RECON.	EFD Same <input type="checkbox"/> or
Yeas	Yeas
Nays	Nays
Excused	Excused
Absent	Absent

Intent adopted

5/14 Reported correctly engrossed
Signed by Speaker, to the Senate

Kristen Gray
Chief Clerk of the House

HISTORY IN THE SENATE

1991

5/15 Read first time and referred to:
L&C

RPT() CS DP NR DNP AM
New Title Same Title Previous FN
FN OFN To

RPT() CS DP NR DNP AM
New Title Same Title Previous FN
FN OFN To

RPT() CS DP NR DNP AM
New Title Same Title Previous FN
FN OFN To

Rules Calendar() CS AM Other
New Title Same Title Previous FN
FN OFN

Read second time

CS Adopted () New Title
Amended Advanced

Read third time

Letter of Intent adopted
Return to second for specific amendment

PASSED	EFD Same <input type="checkbox"/> or
Yeas	Yeas
Nays	Nays
Excused	Excused
Absent	Absent

Reconsideration
Reconsideration not taken up

PASSED	EFD Same <input type="checkbox"/> or
Yeas	Yeas
Nays	Nays
Excused	Excused
Absent	Absent

Reported correctly engrossed
Signed by President, to the House

Secretary of the Senate

ALASKA BOARD OF NURSING
ANNUAL PERFORMANCE REPORT
FISCAL YEAR 1991

Prepared by:

Gail M. McGill, RN
Executive Secretary
August 30, 1991

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Addendum C - Foreign Nurse Fact Sheet

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Addendum E - Approved Nurse Aide Programs

Addendum F - Letter to Tina DeLapp, RN, Ed D

BOARD OF NURSING
MEMBERS AND STAFF
JUNE 30, 1991

BOARD MEMBERS

Janet L. Bunes, R.N., B.S.N. P. O. Box 1192 Wrangell, AK 99929	March 31, 1991
Louise Dean (Public Member) 1911 Waldron Drive Anchorage, AK 99507	March 31, 1994
Tina DeLapp, R.N., Ed. D 13101 S. Bragaw Anchorage, AK 99516	March 31, 1993
Kathi Hewitt, L.P.N., Secretary 1660 Peger Road Fairbanks, AK 99709	March 31, 1991
Gail Stewart, R.N., A.N.P., Chairperson 12220 Rainbow Avenue Anchorage, AK 99516	March 31, 1992
Mary Stroeing, R.N. P. O. Box 020267 Juneau, AK 99802	March 31, 1994
Georgianna Waskey (Public Member) Box 1432 Bethel, AK 99559	March 31, 1991

BOARD STAFF

Gail M. McGuill, R.N.
Executive Secretary
Anchorage, AK

Kym Walker and Linda Gohl
Licensing Examiners
Juneau, AK

Dorothy Fulton, R.N., M.A.
Nurse Aide Program Manager
Anchorage, AK

NARRATIVE SUMMARY

The Alaska Board of Nursing is glad to provide you with the Annual Report for Fiscal Year 1991. This Annual Report reflects the Board's continued attention and support for acceptable standards in nursing education and nursing practice in Alaska. The members of the Board take their responsibility to protect the public seriously and look forward to another year of service to the Alaskan consumers of nursing care.

Membership on the Board of Nursing remained constant this year. Three members have terms expiring March 31, 1991, however, are continuing to serve until Governor Walter Hickel replaces them.

The Board of Nursing conducted three two-day meetings and held two telephone conference calls. One conference call was a regularly scheduled meeting and the other was to take action on disciplinary matters. A wide range of issues was addressed by the Board at its meetings and is detailed in the review of prior year objectives.

The influx of registered nurses leveled off this year even though several facilities are still using traveling nurses to supplement staff. The nursing shortage has encouraged more LPN's to make the transition to RN through additional formal education. New strategies are being used to attempt to get nursing education programs into smaller Alaska communities in order to help increase the local supply of registered nurses.

The members of the Board of Nursing serving during FY 91 included:

Janet Bunes, RN,
Louise Dean, Public Member
Tina DeLapp, RN, EdD
Kathi Hewitt, LPN
Gail Stewart, RN, ANP, Chairperson
Mary Stroeing, RN
Georgianna Waskey, Public Member

Division of Occupational Licensing staff assisting the Board of Nursing during FY 91 were:

Gail M. McGill, RN, Executive Secretary
Kym Walker, Licensing Examiner
Linda Gohl, Licensing Examiner
Dorothy Fulton, RN, Nurse Aide Program Manager
Kevin Henderson, Regulations Specialist
Dorothy Hansen, Investigator
Robert Harrington, Investigator
Gary Veres, Chief Investigator

The Board of Nursing also recognizes and appreciates the assistance to the Board and staff by Assistant Attorneys General Linda O'Bannon and Mary Pinkle.

STATISTICAL OVERVIEW

General Statistics

The licensing activities for the Board of Nursing can be reviewed on the following pages. Table I provides information on the number of permits and licenses issued during fiscal year 1991. This table also indicates the number of active licensees and information on the numbers of advanced nurse practitioners and registered nurse anesthetists.

The number of registered nurses licensed declined over FY 90 but remained stable for practical nurses. The decrease in registered nurses was 20% from FY 90; however, was still higher than the most recent years.

A review of Table II, Five Year Summary FY 1987-1991 shows an average of 549 RN's and 86 LPN's per year in the five years from 1987-1991.

Table III, Disciplinary Summary and Table IV, Enforcement Activity provide information on the investigation and litigation activity for FY 91.

Included in this section is Table V which reports statistics for nurse aide activity for FY 91.

Board of Nursing Activity

The Board of Nursing met five times during FY 91. The dates and places were:

September 6, 7, 1990	Soldotna
November 1, 31, 1990	Anchorage
February 21, 22, 1991	Anchorage Teleconference meeting: included Anchorage, Fairbanks, Mt. Village & Wrangell
March 28, 1991	Anchorage
May 9, 1991	Teleconference meeting: included Anchorage, Fairbanks, Juneau, Mt. Village & Wrangell

LICENSING ACTIVITY
FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 1991

<u>ACTIVITY FY 91</u>	<u>RN's</u>	<u>LPN's</u>
Temporary Permits Issued by Exam	64	7
Temporary Permits Issued by Endorsement	316	26
TOTAL PERMITS	380	33
Licensed by Examination	85	25
Licensed by Endorsement	512	81
TOTAL LICENSED DURING FY 91	597	106
Active Licenses	4,775	766
Lapsed	9,504	3,845
GRAND TOTAL LICENSED SINCE 1941	14,279	4,611

ADVANCED PRACTICE AUTHORIZATIONS FY 91

	<u>ANP</u>	<u>RNA</u>
Temporary Permits	4	
Preceptorship Permits	2	
Initial Authorizations	21	17
Active Authorizations	159	69
Lapsed	78	48
Grand Total	237	117

NOTE: Advanced Nurse Practitioner (ANP), Registered Nurse Anesthetists (RNA)

TABLE II

NURSE LICENSING ACTIVITY
FIVE YEAR SUMMARY FY 1987 - 1991

Registered Nurse	<u>1987</u>	<u>1988</u>	<u>1989</u>	<u>1990</u>	<u>1991</u>
Endorsement	328	383	465	654	512
Exam	<u>88</u>	<u>67</u>	<u>75</u>	<u>89</u>	<u>85</u>
TOTAL	<u>416</u>	<u>450</u>	<u>540</u>	<u>743</u>	<u>597</u>
Licensed Practical Nurse	<u>1987</u>	<u>1988</u>	<u>1989</u>	<u>1990</u>	<u>1991</u>
Endorsement	44	56	84	95	81
Exam	<u>9</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>25</u>
TOTAL	<u>53</u>	<u>66</u>	<u>98</u>	<u>107</u>	<u>106</u>
Five Year Average Licensed per year	Registered Nurses				549
	Licensed Practical Nurses				86

BOARD OF NURSING
DISCIPLINARY SUMMARY
FY 91

Investigations

Cases Pending July 1, 1990	<u>24</u>
New Cases Opened During FY 91	<u>27</u>
Cases Closed	<u>21</u>
Cases Closed Without Action	<u>15</u>
Cases Forwarded to Litigation (i.e., Formal Action Being Pursued)	<u>2</u>
Total Number of Cases under Investigation as of June 30, 1991	<u>30</u>

Litigation

Cases Pending July 1, 1990	<u>0</u>
Cases Opened During FY 91	<u>2</u>
Discipline Imposed	<u>1</u>
Total Number of Cases in Litigation as of June 30, 1991	<u>1</u>

Ongoing Disciplinary Monitoring

Cases Pending July 1, 1990	<u>16</u>
Discipline Cases Transferred to Monitoring in 1991	<u>2</u>
Monitored Cases Closed	<u>4</u>
Total Number of Cases Being Monitored as of June 30, 1991	<u>14</u>

STATE OF ALASKA
ENFORCEMENT ACTIVITY
FY 91

A. Accusations	<u>0</u>
B. Cease and Desist Orders	<u>0</u>
C. Licenses Denied (Statement of Issues)	<u>3</u>
D. Licenses Suspended (Including Summary Suspension)	<u>0</u>
E. Licenses Revoked	<u>0</u>
F. Memorandums of Agreement	<u>4</u>
G. Stipulations	<u>0</u>
H. Letters of Reprimand	<u>0</u>
I. Probation	<u>2</u>
J. Fines	<u>0</u>
K. Cases Dismissed (by AG)	<u>0</u>
L. Hearings	<u>0</u>
M. Licenses Surrendered	<u>2</u>
N. Compliance	<u>0</u>

Examination Statistics

The Board of Nursing in conjunction with the Division of Occupational Licensing administered the National Council Licensing Examination for licensure by exam for practical nurses and registered nurses. Examinations were administered according to contract and security measures with the National Council State Boards of Nursing by the Executive Secretary, Program Manager Licensing Examiner, Board Members and Registered Nurse Proctors. The following are dates and places that the exams for this reporting period were given:

July 11-12, 1990	Series 790 (RN)	Anchorage, Juneau and Fairbanks
October 16, 1990	Series 090 (PN)	Anchorage and Juneau
February 5-6, 1991	Series 291 (RN)	Anchorage and Juneau
April 16, 1991	Series 491 (PN)	Anchorage

Table VI, Exam Results for Alaska Candidates, provides information on the pass rate for first time and other candidates on all exams administered in Alaska. Information is provided on the number of first time candidates taking the exam who are graduates of a school of nursing in the United States. The other category includes candidates who are repeating the exam and/or who have graduated from foreign schools of nursing.

Table VII, Alaska Schools of Nursing Exam Results, data shows the percentages of passing scores for Alaska candidates on exams given in the state. These tables reflect information for University of Alaska graduates from the BSN and ADN programs as well as for Everett Community College graduates who completed the Ketchikan program.

The statistical information on the performance of Alaska graduates on the examination is important to the Board of Nursing when they review the nursing programs.

NURSE AIDE ACTIVITY

FY 91

Nurse Aides Certified:	
by Examination	283
by Deemed Status	245
by Endorsement	119
Total Certified to Registry	647
Grand Total	1,166

EXAM RESULTS FOR ALASKA CANDIDATES

RESULTS OF RN EXAM BY TYPE OF CANDIDATE

<u>Series</u>	<u># 1st time</u>	<u># Pass</u>	<u>% Pass</u>	<u># Others</u>	<u># Pass</u>	<u>% Pass</u>
790	62	60	97%	21	4	19%
291	14	14	100%	14	7	50%
Total	76	74	97%	35	11	31%

RESULTS OF FN EXAM BY TYPE OF CANDIDATE

<u>Series</u>	<u># 1st Time</u>	<u># Pass</u>	<u>% Pass</u>	<u># Other</u>	<u># Pass</u>	<u>% Pass</u>
090	9	7	78%	9	4	44%
491	11	11	100%	6	3	50%
Total	20	18	90%	15	7	47%

Note: Alaska does not have a practical nurse education program.

TABLE VII

ALASKA SCHOOLS OF NURSING EXAM RESULTS
First Time Candidates

<u>Series</u> <u>790</u>	<u>School</u>	<u>N</u>	<u>N Passed</u>	<u>% Passed</u>
	Everett Community College (Ketchikan campus)	5	5	100%
	Univ. of Alaska ADN	29	27	93%
	Univ. of Alaska BSN	17	17	100%
	Alaska Total	51	49	96%
	All U.S. Jurisdictions	52,286	48,032	92%
<u>Series</u> <u>291</u>				
	Univ. of Alaska BSN	12	12	100%
	Alaska Total	12	12	100%
	All U.S. Jurisdictions	15,192	13,845	91%

SUNSET AUDIT RECOMMENDATIONS

The Division of Legislative Audit released the Audit Report on the Board of Nursing on October 11, 1990.

The report concluded the Board of Nursing should be reestablished for eight years. This was based upon the auditors' conclusions. The Board of Nursing has consistently been found to satisfy a public purpose and the Board's business is conducted in a professional, competent and efficient manner.

No recommendations for improvement were made.

REVIEW OF PRIOR YEAR OBJECTIVES

FY 90

1. Objective: The Board of Nursing will continue to define, review, maintain, develop and interpret standards of nursing care that protect the Alaska consumer.

Actions:

This objective is seen by the Board as one of its most important continuing responsibilities. The Board advises staff on issues related to scope of practice. This year the Board denied expanding the RN scope to include suturing. The Board supported expansion of practice to legally allow Registered Nurses to pronounce death under certain circumstances. The Alaska Nurses Association pursued a legislative charge to allow this practice and were successful.

The Board also addressed issues related to Advanced Nurse Practitioner scope of practice. The Boards actions based upon the regulations do not allow ANP's to practice outside the scope identified by the certifying body.

The Executive Secretary continuously responds to inquiries regarding scope of practice issues by utilizing the Board's position statement "Registered Nurse and Advanced Nurse Practitioner Scopes of Practice" and past interpretive statements.

2. Objective:

The Board of Nursing through the Division of Occupational Licensing will continue to license individuals in a timely manner consistent with the Alaska Statutes and Regulations and Board of Nursing Policy.

Actions:

The Licensing Examiner for the Board of Nursing processes all applications for licensure. Completed files are reviewed by the Executive Secretary, Program Manager or Board members and approved for licensure as appropriate. All applications which fall out of the parameters are reviewed and acted upon by the Board. The full Board acted upon three RN applications, two LPN applications and one ANP application.

The Board of Nursing continues to contract with the National Council State Boards of Nursing for use of the national licensing exams for registered and practical nursing. In accordance with provisions of the contract, the Board nominated interested registered nurses for service as content experts and item writers. The National Council chose Mary Sue Nikodym, RN of Wrangell to serve as a Practical Nurse item writer.

It is appropriate here to discuss the results of the Continued Competency Audits. The audit was managed differently for this most recent renewal. The random selection was chosen prior to the mailing of renewal notices. If the nurse was part of the audit at renewal, a letter was sent requesting documentation and the nurses license was renewed for only six months. Once the documentation was submitted and accepted another license was issued for the remainder of the licensing period. This procedure helped the compliance with the audit. As of June 30, 1991, 79% of the LPNs and 94% of the RNs had complied with the audit request. Those who didn't comply, now have a lapsed license.

3. Objective:

Maintain the Board's regulatory function related to nursing education programs.

Actions:

The Schools of Nursing annual reports were reviewed and discussed by the Board at the November meeting. The University of Alaska Baccalaureate Nursing Program and Associate Degree Nursing Program continue to be fully approved by the Board.

The Everett Community College Associate Degree Nursing Program completed it's offering in Ketchikan with all graduates taking the exam being successful on the RN licensure exam.

The Board held a public open forum in Soldotna in September, 1991. As a result of that meeting, the UAA Associate Degree Nursing Program began offering it's program of study in Sldotna. Sheldon Jackson College in Sitka has began discussion with the Board regarding the offering of a Baccalaureate Nursing Program there. Inquiries have also been made by Alaska Technical Center in Kotzebue.

Through the efforts of Dr. Tina DeLapp, Board member, the guidelines for approval of nursing education program were revised and adopted by the Board for use.

4. Objective:

Advise the Investigative Staff regarding Nurse Practice Act violations as necessary and to act upon cases as indicated after litigation hearings. Continue to utilize appropriate probationary agreements in lieu of contested hearings.

Actions:

In order to protect the objectivity of the Board members, limited advice is requested from the Board. The Board takes action to close cases under investigation. The Board's

Executive Secretary and at times individual Board Members provide more in-depth advice and assistance to the investigator.

A summary of the disciplinary action by the Board reflects the Board's objective for utilizing stipulations for nurses recovering from chemical dependency. One registered nurse and one licensed practical nurse were placed on probation. The Board accepted license surrender from one RN and one LPN. The Board denied licenses to two registered nurses, one licensed practical nurse, and denied authorization as a family nurse practitioner to a certified nurse midwife.

Three RNs and one LPN were reinstated after completing terms of probation during this fiscal year.

5. Objective.

Continue to implement procedures for monitoring probationary agreements. Review progress of nurses with stipulated licenses at each Board meeting.

Dorothy Fulton, RN, MA, monitors the nurses on probation for the Division. This process involves requesting and follow-up of drug screening, employer and counselor reports. The nurses are periodically interviewed and AA/NA documentation is reviewed. Telephone communication is maintained with all nurses in the Board's monitoring program.

Reports were given to the Board at each regularly scheduled meeting about the progress of those nurses on probation. Requests for appropriate release from terms of agreements such as counseling are taken up by the Board during the probation report time.

The procedures have been refined as the number of nurses in the program increased and are functioning well for our purposes.

6. Objective:

Participate in the Division Task Force on Impaired Health Practitioners and support efforts to seek legislation for alternatives to disciplinary sanctions and for uniform procedures for all health regulatory boards.

Actions:

Gail Stewart, Chairperson and Gail McGill, Executive Secretary served as Board representative and staff of the Task force during the year. The Task Force concluded the year with a proposed plan for the Alaska Practitioner Recovery

Program (APRP) which will be an alternative to discipline for chemically addicted licensed health care professionals. The health regulatory board representatives have been phased out of the Task Force and the representatives of the health professional organizations will remain to promote development of the APRP. They have drafted legislation supported by the Boards to allow the APRP as an alternative to the discipline process.

7. Objective:

Review and revise regulations to comply with Statutes as needed.

Develop and implement regulations to bring Alaska into compliance with P.L. 100-203, including program approval, competency testing, certification and registry for nurse aides in conjunction with other state agencies as appropriate.

Actions:

The Nurse Aide Program Manager drafted language for regulations and forwarded these to the Division regulation specialist for formatting and to begin the formal regulatory process. This process was begun in FY 90. Other projects in the Division have had priority over this regulation project.

We anticipate activity in the next fiscal year on this project.

b. Amend Registered Nurse Anesthetist regulations to provide for the regulatory authority of the RNA to prescribe drugs.

Actions:

New regulations authorizing Registered Nurse Anesthetists (RNA) to prescribe legend drugs and controlled substances were drafted early in the year. The proposed regulations were public noticed May 15, 1991. The Board will review the comments at their first meeting in FY 92. (See Addendum A)

8. Objective:

Take public comment on the recommendations of the final report from the level of Entry Subcommittee. Begin to develop statutory and regulatory changes based upon committee's recommendations and public comment.

Actions:

Some public comment was received on the report of the Level of Entry Subcommitty. No further work was undertaken an this objective.

9. Objective:

Increase awareness by licensees and consumers of Board of Nursing activities. Continue to provide continuing education offerings on the Nurse Practice Act, Position Papers, regulations and related issues.

Actions:

The Board's Executive Secretary, Gail McGuill, has continued to provide educational offerings on the Alaska Nurse Practice Act, regulations and position statements.

Ms. McGuill writes a column, "Notes from the Board of Nursing" which is published in the Alaska Nurse bimonthly magazine. During the past year, she addressed several classes at both schools of nursing and meetings of the Alaska Nurses' Association District One, Alaska Nurses Association State Convention, Sigma Theta Tau Nursing Health Society and several health care facilities, Alaska Hospital and Nursing Home Association. She also responded to individual and groups of nurses with questions related to nursing practice issues. A total of 23 presentations were made between July 1990 and May 1991 to groups of nurses.

In November, 1990, Ms. McGuill addressed the annual meeting of the AARP Consumer Advocacy Center. This presentation was made in Washington, D.C. before consumer members of health regulatory boards. Ms. McGuill spoke as regulation of advanced nurse practitioners.

This past year, Ms. McGuill was appointed by Commissioner Ted Mala to a task force to address public health nursing and other nursing issues. This task force is now called the Alaska Nurse Leadership Council and Ms. McGuill continues to be an active member of that group.

The fact sheet on the continued competency regulations continues to be used and was updated to reflect the most current information. It includes a form to assist nurses in documenting volunteer professional activities and employment. This has helped provide essential information on these regulations which went into effect with the 1988 renewal.

One of the presentations Ms. McGuill presents is called "When Nurses Need Help." It is done with Cynthia Gough, RN, an addictions nurse and a nurse who is recovering from an addiction. The offering is accredited for 2.4 contact hours of continuing education by the Alaska Nurses Association.

10. Objective:

Continue to increase Board awareness and involvement in National Council State Boards of Nursing (NCSBN) activities by reviewing reports on NCSBN activities and by seeking funding for Board member attendance at NCSBN meetings. Provide

educational sessions on computer adaptive testing and computer simulated testing for use with NCLEX to improve Board members' knowledge base.

Actions:

The best way to increase Board member knowledge is direct involvement in NCSBN activities. This has been very positive with Dr. Tina DeLapp's continuing membership on the NCSBN Nursing Practice and Education Committee. This year Gail Stewart was appointed to the NCSBN committee on advanced practice.

This participation at the NCSBN meetings has helped the Board members to understand their roles and to provide a better service to the state in protection of the public.

Gail McGuill, Executive Secretary, continues on the NCSBN Board of Directors as the Area I Director representing the Western United States. Her participation at the national level has helped the Alaska Board of Nursing to be on the leading edge of nursing regulation.

The Executive Secretary continues to provide reports and information on Council matters to the Board members for review. Board member participation in Council activities and member Board surveys is encouraged.

Kathi Hewitt, Board member, attended the August 1990, annual meeting of the NCSBN in Portland, Maine.

Mary Stroeing, Board member, attended the Spring Area I meeting in March 1991 in Jacson Hole, Wyoming.

11. Objective:

Followup on the recommendations from the report on nursing in Alaska correctional facilities by a followup visit to correctional facilities and a report to the Board.

Actions:

Gail Stewart, Chair and Gail McGuill, Executive Secretary, visited Spring Creek, Wildwood, Wildwood Pretrial, Hiland Mountain and Meadow Creek Correctional facilities in September, 1990. All issues which had been raised in the 1989 report were examined. Nine recommendations were made in the report which are intended to assist correctional staff to improve delivery of nursing services. One recommendation related to management of controlled drugs will require followup which should occur in Fall 1991. (Addendum B)

12. Objective:

Review problems with foreign nurse graduates not being successful on the exam and alternatives for helping them. Prepare an information sheet on licensing of foreign nurse graduates to assist those nurses in seeking licensure.

Actions:

Individual counseling and assistance of foreign educated nurses with the licensing process is an ongoing activity for Board staff.

The Board reviewed information related to the Commission on Graduates of Foreign Nursing Schools. (CGFNS), its exam, and pass rates on NCLE - RN of CGFNS certificate holders. It was the Board's decision to recommend a statute change to no longer issue temporary permits to CGFNS holders. Recent experience in Alaska shows a poor pass rate for foreign educated nurses with permits who are employed. This has the potential for danger to the public when nurses can not demonstrate entry level competence by passing the licensure exam.

A fact sheet on licensure of foreign educated nurses was developed and approved by the Board for use. This fact sheet is sent to foreign educated nurses who inquire about licensing in Alaska. (Addendum C)

13. Objective:

Review the Board's current practice of licensure endorsement for Canadian nurses who took the Canadian Nurses Association Test Services (CNATS) exam in relation to the 1989 paper issued by National Council State Board's of Nursing on a comparison of CNATS to NCLEX-RN. Revise Alaska Statutes and/or regulations if indicated.

Actions:

The Board reviewed the information on CNATS as compared to NCLEX-RN. Based upon this analysis, it is the Board's opinion that CNATS is not equivalent to NCLEX-RN. The Alaska Statutes 08.68.200 allow the Board to determine if CNATS is comparable to the exam administered by this state. Consequently a regulation change to 12AAC 44.310(d) was public noticed May 15, 1991. This change sets a cut off date of July, 1992 for accepting the CNATS exam. (See Addendum A)

14. Objective:

Update the guidelines for RN & LPN refresher courses.

Actions:

In March 1991, Gail McGuill requested copies of refresher course or reentry course guidelines from other states. This information will be compiled and used to revise Alaska's guidelines in the Fall 1991.

15. Objective:

Provide consultation to long-term care facilities and home health care agencies on the nurse aide/home health aide education program approval process, competency testing, certification and inservice education requirements.

Actions:

Dorothy Fulton, Nurse Aide Program Manager, provides consultation to long-term care facilities, home health agencies and educational facilities on the nurse aide approval process, competency testing and certification. She does the training for the nurse evaluators who do the nurse aide/home health aides competency testing, both written and manual skills components. She also works with individual nurse aides/home health aides who are seeking certification. She frequently administers practice tests to nurse aides. During this fiscal year, she has visited all of the new nurse aide training programs both in the long term care facilities and in educational settings to do an onsite visit for program approval. Eighteen programs have state approval as required by the federal regulations. Ms. Fulton continues to meet and consult with the three advisory groups to keep the lines of communication open between the Division and the industry.

Ms. Fulton participated in the Older Alaskans Commission project which developed a competency-based model curriculum which has been field tested and is ready for use by organizations providing home-based care in the native communities for training the Native Alaskan paraprofessionals.

Ms. Fulton also attended a meeting of nurse aide and home health aide State and federal regulators sponsored by The National Council of State Boards of Nursing in Baltimore Maryland, September 13 and 14, 1990.

16. Objective:

Develop standards of practice for Practical Nurses in accordance with 08.68.100(9). Include a review and inclusion as necessary of position statements; LPN Utilization in Administration of Oral Subcutaneous and IM Medications and Nursing Responsibilities in Intravenous Therapy.

Actions:

This objective continues to be a major focus of Board activity. The survey of Boards of Nursing and regulatory information on practical nurse scope practice was analyzed. The data collected in Alaska on scope of practice was tabulated and analyzed. The information on both surveys led the Board to conclude there is a different scope of practice for experienced practical nurses compared to those beginning practice. Based upon this work, the Board has drafted a new position paper on the LPN scope of practice. It is anticipated that this paper will be adopted by the Board at its first meeting in FY'92.

In an effort to share the results of our research activities, Dr. Tina DeLapp submitted an abstract for consideration for presentation at the 1991 NCSBN Delegate Assembly. The abstract was selected and Dr. DeLapp is scheduled to present a paper on the scope of practice of the Licensed Practical Nurse.

17. Objective:

Implement strategies for solutions to the nursing shortage that continue to safeguard the health and welfare of public.

ACTIONS:

The Division activities in streamlining licensing procedures have assisted the community by providing licensed nurses where needed. Many of the Board's activities with regulation of practice such as development of the LPN scope of practice statement are strategies to assist with solutions to the nursing shortage.

18. Objective:

After the 1990 renewal cycle, review the Division Board of Nursing budget including revenues and expenditures in relation to assessing the adequacy of the current fee structure.

Action:

The Board delayed examining the fee structure pending a detailed look at the revenues and expenditures which has not been available to the Board in the fiscal year due to the renewal cycle.

19. Objective:

Begin to develop guidelines to aid nurses, employers and others on specifically what nursing practice problems should be reported to the board.

Actions:

Due to other issues which were more pressing, action on this objective was deferred to FY 91.

OBJECTIVES
FY 92

1. The Board of Nursing will continue to define, review, maintain, develop and interpret standards of nursing care that protect the Alaska consumer.
2. The Board of Nursing through the Division of Occupational Licensing will continue to license individuals in a timely manner consistent with the Alaska Statutes and Regulations and Board of Nursing Policy.
 - a. To continue the licensing procedures to include: Licensed Practical Nurse and Registered Nurse endorsements and authorization to practice for Advanced Nurse Practitioners and Registered Nurse Anesthetists.
 - b. To license by examination LPN's and RN's. To fulfill contract responsibilities with the National Council of State Boards of Nursing.
3. Maintain the Board's regulatory function related to nursing education programs.
 - a. Review annual reports from Alaska Nursing Education Programs for evaluation of continued approval.
 - b. To perform site visits to the schools of nursing as required by statute and regulations. A visit to the UAA Associate Degree Nursing Program is planned for Spring 1992 in conjunction with an NLN accreditation site visit.
4. Advise the Investigative Staff regarding Nurse Practice Act violations as necessary and to act upon cases as indicated. Continue to utilize appropriate probationary agreements in lieu of contested hearings.
5. Continue to implement procedures for monitoring probationary agreements. Review progress of nurses with stipulated licenses at each Board meeting.
6. Review and revise regulations to comply with statutes as needed.
 - a. Develop and implement regulations to bring Alaska into compliance with P.L. 100-203, Nursing Home Reform Act, including program approval, competency testing, certification and registry for nurse aides/home health aides in conjunction with other state agencies as appropriate.

- b. Amend Registered Nurse Anesthetist regulations to provide for the regulatory authority of the RNA to prescribe drugs.
 - c. Revise regulations pertaining to licensure by endorsement for Canadian nurses who took the Canadian Nurses Association Test Services (CNATS) exam.
 - d. Promulgate regulations to allow for sanctions of nurses practicing on a lapsed license.
7. Increase awareness by licensees and consumers of Board of Nursing activities. Continue to provide continuing education offerings on the Nurse Practice Act, Position Papers, regulations and related issues.
 8. Continue to increase Board awareness and involvement in National Council State Boards of Nursing (NCSBN) activities by reviewing reports on NCSBN activities and by seeking funding for Board member attendance at NCSBN meetings. Provide educational sessions on computer adaptive testing and computer simulated testing for use with NCLEX to improve Board members' knowledge base.
 9. Update the guidelines for RN & LPN refresher courses.
 10. Provide consultation to long-term care facilities and home health care agencies on the nurse aide/home health aide education program approval process, competency testing, certification and inservice education requirements.
 11. Complete development of standards of practice for Practical Nurses
 12. Begin to develop guidelines to aid nurses, employers and others on specifically what nursing practice problems should be reported to the board.
 13. Research delegation issues and develop a position paper or regulations on delegation of nursing activities to unlicensed personnel.
 14. Plan and conduct with other organizations a 50th Anniversary Celebration to include continuing education offerings on legal aspects of nursing and social events.
 15. Conduct a random review of the practice of 10% of nursing practitioners to determine compliance with the plans for consultation and referral and other regulations.
 16. Seek legislation to grant regulatory authority to the Board of Nursing for nurse aides and to change statutes to not allow foreign nurse exam applicants to have a temporary permit.
 17. Review an RN licensing exam during the next exam review cycle.

BOARD TRAVEL REQUEST

A. Board Meetings

The Board of Nursing is authorized by statute to hold at least four meetings. Consequently, the Board requests funding to hold four meetings. The proposed sites are listed below:

FY 92	FY 93
Anchorage	Fairbanks
Anchorage	Anchorage
Juneau	Juneau
Anchorage	Anchorage

B. Out of State Travel

The prioritized out-of-state travel requests are as follows:

1. NCSBN Annual Meeting in Chicago, Illinois, August, 1991
2. Area I Meeting in Portland, Oregon, April, 1992
3. NCSBN Annual meeting in Colorado Springs, Colorado, August, 1992.

For FY 93 requests will be submitted for two members to attend the same two meetings. The Spring Area I meeting will likely be held in Utah with the August annual delegate assembly scheduled for Colorado or as noted above.

It should be noted that as the Board's Executive Secretary is currently the Area I Director on the NCSBN Board of Directors, she will be attending the Council's proposed meetings at the expense of the Council.

BUDGET RECOMMENDATIONS

The following items are based on the FY 92 objectives and require fiscal consideration.

1. Continue to provide funding for two RN and two LPN exam administrations as required by contract with the National Council State Boards of Nursing (NCSBN). This should be done according to statutory requirements for statewide administration (08.68.190) in conjunction with Board policy. This would also require continuing the contract with NCSBN for the licensure examinations at the current cost of \$3,000.00 per year.
2. Hold public hearings on the proposed regulations for nurse aide education and competency testing.
3. Secure travel funds for the nurse educator on the Board to do a site visit to Sheldon Jackson College in Sitka if they proceed with development of a nursing education program.

LEGISLATIVE RECOMMENDATIONS

The Board of Nursing believes it is important to seek legislation which grants authority to the Board to regulate nurse aides. Nurse Assistant personnel perform delegated nursing functions and as such should be regulated in the same manner nurses are regulated.

The Board of Nursing will also recommend to the Division to delete the current statute which allows for foreign nurse graduates who hold a Certificate from the Commission on Graduates of Foreign Nursing Schools (CGFNS) to be granted temporary permits. The pass rate of CGFNS holders on the NCLEX-RN has dropped and the Board believes that neither consumers, nurses or employers are well served by the current law.

The Board supports all efforts to obtain legislation to put into place the Alaska Practitioner Recovery Program as an alternative to discipline for chemically impaired health professional's.

REGULATION RECOMMENDATIONS

As indicated in the objectives for FY 92, the Board will continue to participate in the regulation of long term care and home health care nurse aides in accordance with the Governor's Administrative Order 415. The initial drafting of the regulations was done by Dorothy Fulton, Nurse Aide Program Manager. They are based upon the OBRA requirements for nurse aide education, competency testing and certification to a registry. The content of the proposed regulations will parallel the Nurse Aide Training and Competency Evaluation Criteria Manual revised August 1989 and the most current federal regulations on the subject. Use of the regulatory process will serve to protect the consumer by defining the standards for education and competency based testing for nurse aides employed in long term care and home health care.

The second regulatory project deals with defining the RNA's role in prescribing medications preoperatively and postoperatively. Further definition is needed to protect the public so RNA's will continue to practice within their appropriate scope of practice.

Proposed Regulations
BOARD OF NURSING
RNA Prescriptive Authority and other provisions

RNA PRESCRIPTIVE AUTHORITY

Notice is given that the Board of Nursing, Department of Commerce and Economic Development, under authority vested by AS 08.68.100 and AS 08.68.200, proposes to adopt a new regulation in Title 12 of the Alaska Administrative Code, dealing with licensure by endorsement for foreign trained applicants, the prescriptive authority of an advanced nurse practitioner, and the granting of prescriptive authority to qualified registered nurse anesthetist's (RNA), all of which serve to implement, interpret, and make specific AS 08.68.100 and AS 08.68.200 as follows:

1. 12 AAC 44.310(d), dealing with the licensure of foreign school graduates, is rewritten to reflect the board's finding that the National Canadian Nursing Examination is no longer equivalent to the NCLEX examination and will not be accepted after the specific date;
2. 12 AAC 44.440(e), dealing with ANP prescriptive authority, is amended to authorize the Board of Nursing to terminate an ANP's prescriptive authority for a violation of a state or federal law pertaining to nursing practice;
3. 12 AAC 44.525, RNA PRESCRIPTIVE AUTHORITY, is a new section that authorizes an RNA to prescribe legend drugs and controlled substances, requires that a list of authorized RNA's be provided to the Board of Pharmacy, establishes application requirements and minimum qualifications for prescriptive authorization, describes an acceptable prescription, identifies the reasons an RNA's prescriptive authority may be terminated, describes authorization renewal requirements, establishes continuing education requirements, requires that the Board of Pharmacy be notified when an RNA's prescriptive authority is changed.

Notice is also given that any person interested in making written comments or suggestions concerning these proposals for board consideration may do so by mailing those comments to Kevin Henderson, Regulations Specialist, Division of Occupational Licensing, P.O. Box D, Juneau, AK 99811. Written comments must be received by MONDAY, JULY 22, 1991.

Copies of the proposed regulations may be obtained by writing to the above address or by telephoning (907) 465-2537.

This action is not expected to require an increased appropriation.

The Board of Nursing, after the deadline stated above, will either adopt these or other proposals dealing with the same subject, without further notice, or decide to take no action on them.

Ann P. Boudreaux

Ann P. Boudreaux, Director
Division of Occupational Licensing
Date: May 15, 1991

PROPOSED REGULATIONS

BOARD OF NURSING

CHAPTER 44

12 AAC 44.310(d) is repealed and readopted to read:

(d) The board will, in its discretion, issue a license by endorsement under AS 08.68.200, to an applicant who was licensed in Canada as a result of passing the national Canadian examination

(1) before August 1980, with a score of at least 350 on each of the five parts of the examination; or

(2) after July 1980 but before July 1992, with a score of at least 400 on each of the five parts of the examination. (Eff. 10/14/72, Register 43; am 4/27/83, Register 86; am / / , Register)

Authority: AS 08.68.100

AS 08.68.190

AS 08.68.200

AS 08.68.210(a)

12 AAC 44.440(e) is amended to read:

(e) Prescriptive authorization will, in the board's discretion, be terminated if the ANP has

- (1) not maintained current authorization as an ANP;
[OR]
- (2) prescribed outside the ANP scope of practice or
for other than therapeutic purpose; or
- (3) violated any provision of state or federal
statutes and regulations pertaining to nursing practice.
(Eff. 1/13/80, Register 73; am 12/1/84, Register 91; am 11/7/87,
Register 104; am / / , Register)

Authority: AS 08.68.100

12 AAC 44 is amended by adding a new section to read:

12 AAC 44.525. RNA PRESCRIPTIVE AUTHORITY. (a) The board will, in its discretion, authorize a registered nurse anesthetist or "RNA" to prescribe legend drugs and schedule II through V controlled substances in accordance with applicable state and federal laws.

(b) The board will transmit to the Board of Pharmacy a list of all RNAs with prescriptive authority. The list will include

- (1) the name of the authorized RNA;
- (2) the prescriber's identification number assigned by the board; and
- (3) the effective date of prescriptive authority.

(c) A registered nurse who applies for authorization to prescribe drugs shall

- (1) be currently authorized as an RNA in Alaska;
- (2) provide evidence of completion of 15 contact hours of education in advanced pharmacology related to the administration of anesthesia within the two-year period immediately before the date of application; and
- (3) submit a completed, notarized application, on a form provided by the department, accompanied by the application fee established by 12 AAC 02.280.

(d) Authorized prescriptions by an RNA must

- (1) comply with all applicable state and federal laws; and
- (2) be signed by the prescriber with the initials "RNA" and the prescriber's identification number assigned by the board.

(e) Prescriptive authorization will, in the board's discretion, be terminated if the RNA has

- (1) not maintained current authorization as an RNA;
- (2) prescribed outside the RNA scope of practice or for other than therapeutic purposes; or
- (3) violated any provision of state or federal statutes and regulations pertaining to nursing practice.

(f) RNA prescriptive authority must be renewed biennially with the RNA authorization. Documentation of eight contact hours of advanced pharmacology relating to the administration of

anesthesia during the previous two years must be submitted at the time of renewal.

(g) The board will notify the Board of Pharmacy within 24 hours after termination of, or change in, a registered nurse anesthetist's prescriptive authority. (Eff. / / , Register)

Authority: AS 08.68.100

**DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE &
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

DIVISION OF OCCUPATIONAL LICENSING

7TH FLOOR FRONTIER BLDG.
3601 C STREET, SUITE 722
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99503
PHONE: (907) 561-2878

February 7, 1991

Lloyd Hames, Commissioner
Department of Corrections
P.O. Box T
Juneau, AK 99811

Dear Commissioner Hames:

The Alaska Board of Nursing has recently completed a follow up review of nursing services provided in state correctional facilities. The Board of Nursing undertook this series of reviews based upon their authority to "publish advisory opinions regarding whether nursing practice, procedures or policies comply with acceptable standards of nursing practice as defined under this chapter" as provided in AS 08.68.100(10).

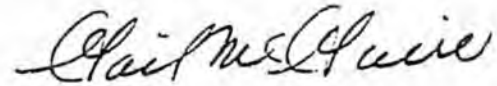
The Board is forwarding the enclosed report for your consideration. At its last meeting, the Board of Nursing approved the report provided to it by Gail Stewart, ANP, Board Member and myself. The recommendations were adopted by the Board for submission to the Department of Corrections.

The Board of Nursing staff and board members have developed a good working relationship with the Corrections health services administration. We believe through our continued communication and collaboration, the recommendations will be resolved.

The board again expresses appreciation to corrections staff who assisted them in their review of the nursing services in the correctional facilities. Martha Quimby, Nurse Supervisor for the Department of Corrections, was present at the Board of Nursing meeting where this report and recommendations were discussed. The board appreciates her continued participation in this process.

If you have any questions regarding the report or recommendations, do not hesitate to contact me. I will be in contact with Ed Thielen and Martha Quimby regarding follow up on the recommendations in the future.

Sincerely,



Gail M. McGill, RN
Executive Secretary
Alaska Board of Nursing

cc: Richard Bentson
Ed Thielen
Commissioner Glen Olds
Department of Commerce and Economic Development
Marcia Bissell, Acting Director
Division of Occupational Licensing

1280n/p6-7/tb

**DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE &
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

DIVISION OF OCCUPATIONAL LICENSING

7TH FLOOR FRONTIER BLDG.
3601 C STREET, SUITE 722
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99503
PHONE: (907) 561-2878

DATE: September 20, 1990

TO: Board of Nursing

FROM: Gail Stewart, ANP, Board Member
Gail McGuill, RN, Executive Secretary

SUBJECT: Follow-up of the February 1989 Evaluation of
Nursing Service in Correctional Facilities
Report of 1990 Visits to Correctional Facilities

GOALS

The Goal of the visit was to assess the nursing services offered in correctional facilities, keeping in mind the following goals for correctional health services;

1. The health care provided in the correctional facilities should be equivalent to that available in the community and subject to the same regulations.
2. Preserve and promote the health in the incarcerated individual within the broader goal of security.

INTRODUCTION

From October 1988 through January 1989 the Board of Nursing conducted a review of the nursing services provided in the Anchorage Area correctional facilities. Subsequently, recommendations were made to the Board of Nursing in February 1989, and these recommendations were forwarded to the Department of Corrections. The Department of Corrections responded in September 1989 with comments and plans for improvement in services.

The purpose for the visits in September 1990 by Board of Nursing representatives was to review the status of the recommendations made to the Department of Corrections.

Visits were made to Spring Creek, Wildwood, Wildwood Pretrial, Hiland Mountain, and Meadow Creek correctional

facilities. Interviews were conducted with Dolores Sage, RN, Dorothy Locke, medical records technician, Carolyn Townsend, RN, Ed Lindquist, RN, Jody Hatt, RN, and Deanna Ahlstrand, RN. The clinic, examination and infirmary areas; emergency equipment; and narcotic storage areas were visited. Procedures for medication administration and the use of standing orders were discussed. A random selection of medical records was reviewed.

This report is written with the issues identified by the Board in 1988 being presented first and the current finding indicated next. The site visitors have made recommendations for the Board to consider as a result of their findings.

ISSUES REVIEWED

1. LPN's are requested to use nursing skills which are beyond their scope of practice.

Findings: The RN's interviewed all felt the LPN's were working within their scope of practice. There were no LPN's available to be interviewed. The assessment skills were praised by the RN's and they reported the LPN's are calling the PA on call in most instances. A review of randomly selected medical records shows appropriate care and charting techniques. In fact, the nursing notes reviewed were exceptionally well written.

2. Prescription medications may be administered by unlicensed ancillary personnel. Current Alaska practice provides for PA's to prescribe drugs which are dispensed by a pharmacist and administered by licensed nurses.

Findings: Medical Technologists (Med Techs) are still administering medications at Wildwood and Cook Inlet, however, it is noted that there are fewer med techs at Cook Inlet. The Wildwood med tech works part-time and an effort is being made to recruit an RN or LPN for the facilities.

"Bubble paks" are being used on a regular basis and stock meds are being kept available. We did not find the use of one inmate's medications for another inmate being done on a regular basis. There were no complaints about getting medications from the pharmacy in a timely manner.

3. Correctional officers (guards) are reported to be administering Schedule II narcotics which are signed out by the nurse. The drugs are labeled for the inmate and turned over to the guard.

Findings: There were no reports of correctional officers administering medication except for over the counter medications.

4. Medication (and other orders written by the PA's or other

prescribers such as dentists and surgeons) are transcribed to the medication and treatment records by the staff person available, not necessarily an RN. Stop dates for medications are not uniformly used.

Findings: There appears to be some confusion regarding the transcription and co-signing of orders. It is the intention of the Board of Nursing to have the PA, Physician, or Dentist write medical orders. These orders are then transcribed onto medication sheets by the licensed nurse and signed off by an RN. It is the intention not to have med techs write original orders or to recopy orders onto med sheets without a co-signature. This is to prevent errors which may not be easily recognized by those without a medical or nursing education.

Medication sheets were reviewed and had stop dates noted in most instances.

5. LPN's reported being told they could administer PRN medications including controlled drugs if they deemed them necessary and the PA would write the order in the morning.

Findings: Medical records were reviewed for inmates seen when the PA was not available. The LPN did an assessment within her/his scope, called the PA and discussed the case; verbal orders were given and the orders were co-signed the following morning.

Wildwood Correctional Facility has a set of standing orders which require nurses to use assessment skills beyond the legal scope of practice for RN's and LPN's. For example, diagnosing an inmate with back pain and starting the inmate on Feldene is not within the nursing scope of practice. This medication has side effects and may aggravate other pre-existing conditions.

6. Institute a quality assurance program to evaluate and make improvements where indicated in nursing practice.

Findings: No quality assurance plan was available at the facilities for reviewing, however central office indicated a draft was available.

7. Policy and procedures should be developed for nursing services.

Findings: A draft of policies and procedures for nursing services is currently being developed and was reviewed. We urge continuation of this project.

8. Increase orientation time of nursing staff to observe skill levels, teach policies and procedures, improve communication and promote teamwork.

Findings: There appears to be a need to increase orientation time and to include orientation in security procedures and the special skills needed to work with inmates. Orientations were described at each facility. They generally consist of three shifts of work with another nurse but without formal orientation to security.

9. Provide a position description at time of hire to describe an initial overview of responsibilities.

Findings: A position description was not consistently found at every facility at the time of the visit.

10. Institute a correction's medical job skill checklist for use at time of hire/orientation as part of quality assurance to provide for consistency and to document knowledge base.

Findings: A skill checklist is in the draft policy and procedure book.

11. Provide RN staffing on every shift for the health and safety of inmates in accordance with national standards.

Findings: RN staffing is not provided on all shifts. The visitors recognize that the facilities differ significantly in population and health care needs. For instance, Wildwood appears to be a very quiet facility, where Meadow Creek was very busy on the day we visited. A concern does remain; however, as there is the potential for an LPN to be in a position to need to administer IV meds. This situation can be prevented with the hiring of a temporary RN or scheduling changes.

12. The policy should be enforced so that the medical records go with the inmate at time of transfer. This is a basic quality assurance item which provides for continuity of care between facilities.

Findings: This still remains a problem; however, one nurse noted an improvement over the last nine months. There appears to be better verbal communication between facilities if the chart does not go with the inmate at time of transfer. One example was given of an inmate transferred without medical records and it was three weeks until the error was realized.

13. Clearly designate a supervisor for nursing staff and a chain of command to identify the flow of responsibility.

Findings: The nurses could describe the chain of command and could identify who was responsible for care on a given shift.

14. Support hiring a statewide Nursing Coordinator to maintain quality assurance standards of practice and

provision of ongoing continuing education.

Findings: A Nurse IV has been hired as a Nursing Coordinator. She has maintained good communication with the Board of Nursing. We support the development of the policy and procedure book currently in draft form. We also support the development of a standardized statewide quality assurance program for the health services offered in a correctional facility. We also encourage the development of an ongoing nursing inservice program throughout the system.

15. A licensed nurse does not delegate medication administration or invasive procedures to unlicensed personnel and the unlicensed person is therefore responsible for his own actions.

Findings: It is noted from a memo dated September 6, 1989 from the Commissioner of the Department of Corrections that the PA or ANP acts as the IHCO and is responsible for the health care delivery of the assigned personnel. The nurses were able to verbalize who their supervisor was and for whom they were responsible.

16. Procedure is necessary to maintain controlled drugs under two locks and to provide for wastage of drugs in accordance with DEA regulations.

Findings: There is a need for a standard method to account for receiving narcotics from the pharmacy, storage of the medications, signing out the medications, and returning the unused medications to the pharmacy. At Wildwood, although the supply is limited, the narcotics are not under two locks. At Hiland there is some difficulty in accounting for the medications. In fact, we were unable to do an accurate narcotic count at Highland during our visit.

At one facility Tylenol #3 was not found under lock and key. At Hiland Mountain, the doors were left open at the same time controlled drugs were set out on the counter easily accessible to any inmate or staff member present in the clinic area.

17. Use of treatment protocols be established and not use standing orders which require assessment and diagnosis.

Findings: A set of standing orders was found at Wildwood. We strongly encourage abolishing the use of standing orders. Often the use of standing orders requires diagnosing and prescribing which is not in the scope of practice for RN's or LPN's.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. It is critical that the narcotic storage and accountability be standardized. A mechanism needs to be in

place to account for drugs delivered to the facility, drugs returned to pharmacy, storage of drugs, and a method to allow for easy counting with every shift change.

2. Abolish the use of standing orders by nursing staff.
3. Institute a quality assurance plan which is standardized among all the facilities.
4. Increase orientation time and include an orientation to security procedures. Ideally, an inservice program on a regular basis could be offered. We suggest filing documentation of orientation including orientation to security in each nurse's personnel file.
5. Licensed nursing personnel transcribe the medical orders onto medication sheets and the orders must be signed off by a registered nurse within 24 hours. Should an inmate's medication sheets need to be recopied, a licensed nurse should review the sheets and co-sign the new sheet to verify accuracy in order to prevent errors.
6. Continue to encourage the transfer of the medical records with the inmate at the time of transfer. Promote verbal communication among the facilities should the record not go with the transfer of the inmate.
7. Support the continued development of the policy and procedure book currently in progress.
8. Support the hiring of an RN for every shift and the use of LPN's for support personnel.
9. Records of work schedules, CPR updates, and continuing education should be available in each nurse's file.

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Alaska Board of Nursing
FACT SHEET

LICENSING OF FOREIGN EDUCATED REGISTERED NURSES

Endorsement Information

In order to be licensed in Alaska, a nurse must pass the National Council Licensing Exam for Registered Nurses (NCLEX-RN). If the nurse was licensed by exam in another state or U.S. Territory (jurisdiction), the nurse is eligible for a license by endorsement in Alaska. This requires:

- completion of an application,
- payment of fees,
- verification of current licensure in another jurisdiction,
- verification of original license from the state where the NCLEX-RN examination was taken,
- completion of the reference/work verification and
- submission of a transcript from the applicants nursing program.

It is acceptable for the nurse to obtain a certified true copy of the transcript from the Board of Nursing where the nurse was originally licensed. If the nurse holds a certificate from the Commission on Graduates of Foreign Nursing Schools (CGFNS), a certified true copy of the certificate may be submitted in lieu of transcripts.

Nurses applying for license by endorsement who hold a current license in another jurisdiction are eligible for a temporary permit.

Examination Information:

If a nurse seeking to be licensed is not licensed in another United States jurisdiction, the nurse must take the NCLEX-RN. The license by exam process includes completion of the state application and submission of fees, verification from a nursing education program attesting to completion of RN education and submission of the original transcript from the school of nursing. An application and fee must also be submitted to the NCLEX Data Center to reserve a seat for the examination.

Alaska does not require foreign nurse graduates to hold a certificate from the Commission on Graduates of Foreign Nursing Schools. If the nurse does hold a CGFNS certificate, the nurse is eligible for a temporary permit by exam. Transcripts from CGFNS are acceptable in lieu of transcripts from the school of nursing. The Alaska Board of Nursing recognizes the CGFNS certificate holder as meeting the educational requirements for licensure in Alaska. If the applicant was accepted to take CGFNS exam but didn't take it or failed the exam, the Alaska board will accept the CGFNS transcript review as meeting our education requirement, once a copy of the CGFNS transcript review is received.

The Board of Nursing has recently evaluated the statutes and regulations which pertain to the CGFNS requirement. The Board of Nursing is in the process of beginning to seek statutory changes so that Alaska will no longer issue temporary permits to CGFNS holders. The Board is following a national trend in this regard. The studies on NCLEX RN pass rates of CGFNS certificate holders indicate the success rate has declined. The CGFNS certificate does not have an expiration date so a nurse could hold a certificate but not have practiced nursing in five or more years. Another problem which has been noted is that CGFNS certificate holders may take the exam in several states unsuccessfully then apply to take NCLEX here as first time candidates thus qualifying for a temporary permit.

At the request of Boards of Nursing, the Commission is exploring the possibility of offering a credential review service to foreign educated nurses. This would provide the Board with information on whether the foreign nurses' education is equivalent to that required in Alaska.

The Alaska Board of Nursing advises foreign nurse graduates who do not hold CGFNS certificates to take the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) exam to ascertain whether English comprehension skills are adequate to proceed with the nurse licensure exam. Information on this exam is available through the University of Alaska Counseling Center offices. If the nurse believes her/his English skills to be adequate, the board suggests the nurse take the National Council Licensing Exam for practical nurses. If the nurse passes this exam, she/he may then work as an LPN and gain valuable nursing experience in Alaska as well as the health care terminology used here. The successful LPN may then proceed to take the RN exam.

Canadian Nurses

Alaska Statute 08.68.200(2) allows for license by endorsement of a registered nurse who has passed the Canadian Nurses' Association Testing Service (CNATS) exam. We currently issue temporary permits to Canadian nurses with active licenses from provinces who use the CNATS exam.

If the nurse is from a province that does not use CNATS (Ontario) or a province that allows the exam to be taken in French, the nurse must apply for licensure by examination.

The Board has reviewed recent information on the CNATS exam and found that the current exam is no longer comparable to NCLEX-RN. It is the Board's intention to initiate changes in these regulations in the next year.

H-1 Visa Information:

The Alaska Board of Nursing frequently receives inquiries from foreign educated nurses who want to work in Alaska. If the nurse is not a citizen of the United States, an H-1 work visa is required to work here. Visa information is available through Immigration and Naturalization Services. The H-1 work visa requires a nurse to be currently licensed (or hold a temporary permit and a CGFNS certificate) and be sponsored by an agency who is willing to employ the nurse. The Board of Nursing recommends to employers and foreign nurse graduates that the nurse hold a permanent license prior to applying for the H-1 work visa. This prevents the situation where an H-1 work visa is issued to a nurse on a temporary permit who then fails the examination and is unable to continue to be employed as a licensed nurse.

Further information on licensing and regulation of foreign educated nurses is available from the Executive Secretary, Board of Nursing, 3601 C Street, Suite 722, Anchorage, AK 99503.

NURSING EDUCATION PROGRAMS IN ALASKA

BACCALAUREATE DEGREE PROGRAM

University of Alaska, Anchorage
School of Nursing and the Health Sciences
3221 Providence Drive
Anchorage, Alaska 99508
Phone: (907) 786-1267

Dean: Laura MacLachlan, PhD, RN
Established: 1968 at Alaska Methodist University
Accreditation by Alaska Board of Nursing in 1973

MASTER'S DEGREE PROGRAM

University of Alaska, Anchorage
School of Nursing and the Health Sciences
3221 Providence Drive
Anchorage, Alaska 99508

Dean: Laura MacLachlan, PhD, RN
Established: 1981

ASSOCIATE DEGREE PROGRAMS

University of Alaska, Anchorage
3221 Providence Drive
Anchorage, Alaska 99508
Phone: (907) 786-1273

COORDINATOR: Anita Watts-Soquet, RN, MN
Established: 1970
Accreditation by Alaska Board of Nursing in 1973

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STATE OF ALASKA

NURSE AIDE APPROVED PROGRAMS

PROCARE Professional Training Systems, Inc. Suite 1525 1201 Peachtree Street, N.E. Atlanta, Georgia 30361	#1
St. Ann's Nursing Home 415 6th Street Juneau, AK 99801 Contact: Cathy Kolligan, R.N.	#2
University of Alaska Southeast 7th & Madison Ketchikan, AK. 99901 Contact: Pat Clevenger, RN	#3
Kotzebue Senior Citizens Cultural Center P. O. Box 1073 Kotzebue, AK 99901 Contact: Nancy Farrington, RN, DDN	#4
Quyaana Care Center P. O. Box 966 Nome, AK 99762 Contact: Linda Peters, RN, DDN	#5
Our Lady of Compassion 4900 Eagle Street Anchorage, AK 99503 Contact: Belle Cunningham, LPN	#6
Kenai Peninsula College 34820 College Drive Soldotna, AK 99669 Contact: Forrest Tressler/Connie Smith, RN	#7
Heritage Place 232 Rockwell Soldotna, AK 99669 Contact: Connie Smith, RN Director of Nursing	#8
South Peninsula Hospital, LTC 4300 Bartlett Homer, Alaska 99603 Contact: Sue Brooks, LPN	#9