

CERTIFICATION OF ENROLLMENT

SENATE BILL 5092

Chapter 229, Laws of 2013

63rd Legislature
2013 Regular Session

NURSES--CONTINUING COMPETENCY REQUIREMENTS--EXEMPTION

EFFECTIVE DATE: 07/28/13

Passed by the Senate April 23, 2013
YEAS 48 NAYS 0

BRAD OWEN

President of the Senate

Passed by the House April 17, 2013
YEAS 97 NAYS 0

FRANK CHOPP

Speaker of the House of Representatives

Approved May 14, 2013, 11:19 a.m.

JAY INSLEE

Governor of the State of Washington

CERTIFICATE

I, Hunter G. Goodman, Secretary of the Senate of the State of Washington, do hereby certify that the attached is **SENATE BILL 5092** as passed by the Senate and the House of Representatives on the dates hereon set forth.

HUNTER G. GOODMAN

Secretary

FILED

May 14, 2013

**Secretary of State
State of Washington**

SENATE BILL 5092

AS AMENDED BY THE HOUSE

Passed Legislature - 2013 Regular Session

State of Washington 63rd Legislature 2013 Regular Session

By Senators Benton, Shin, Braun, Roach, and Honeyford

Read first time 01/17/13. Referred to Committee on Health Care .

1 AN ACT Relating to providing an exemption from continuing
2 competency requirements for registered nurses who seek advanced nursing
3 degrees; and amending RCW 18.79.110.

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

5 **Sec. 1.** RCW 18.79.110 and 1994 sp.s. c 9 s 411 are each amended to
6 read as follows:

7 (1) The commission shall keep a record of all of its proceedings
8 and make such reports to the governor as may be required. The
9 commission shall define by rules what constitutes specialized and
10 advanced levels of nursing practice as recognized by the medical and
11 nursing profession. The commission may adopt rules or issue advisory
12 opinions in response to questions put to it by professional health
13 associations, nursing practitioners, and consumers in this state
14 concerning the authority of various categories of nursing practitioners
15 to perform particular acts.

16 (2) The commission shall approve curricula and shall establish
17 criteria for minimum standards for schools preparing persons for
18 licensing as registered nurses, advanced registered nurse
19 practitioners, and licensed practical nurses under this chapter. The

1 commission shall approve such schools of nursing as meet the
2 requirements of this chapter and the commission, and the commission
3 shall approve establishment of basic nursing education programs and
4 shall establish criteria as to the need for and the size of a program
5 and the type of program and the geographical location. The commission
6 shall establish criteria for proof of reasonable currency of knowledge
7 and skill as a basis for safe practice after three years' inactive or
8 lapsed status. The commission shall establish criteria for licensing
9 by endorsement. The commission shall determine examination
10 requirements for applicants for licensing as registered nurses,
11 advanced registered nurse practitioners, and licensed practical nurses
12 under this chapter, and shall certify to the secretary for licensing
13 duly qualified applicants.

14 (3) The commission shall adopt rules on continuing competency. The
15 rules _ must _ include _ exemptions _ from _ the _ continuing _ competency
16 requirements for registered nurses seeking advanced nursing degrees.
17 Nothing in this subsection prohibits the commission from providing
18 additional exemptions for any person credentialed under this chapter
19 who is enrolled in an advanced education program.

20 (4) The commission shall adopt such rules under chapter 34.05 RCW
21 as are necessary to fulfill the purposes of this chapter.

22 (5) The commission is the successor in interest of the board of
23 nursing and the board of practical nursing. All contracts,
24 undertakings, agreements, rules, regulations, decisions, orders, and
25 policies of the former board of nursing or the board of practical
26 nursing continue in full force and effect under the commission until
27 the commission amends or rescinds those rules, regulations, decisions,
28 orders, or policies.

29 (6) The members of the commission are immune from suit in an
30 action, civil or criminal, based on its disciplinary proceedings or
31 other official acts performed in good faith as members of the
32 commission.

33 (7) Whenever the workload of the commission requires, the
34 commission may request that the secretary appoint pro tempore members
35 of the commission. When serving, pro tempore members of the commission
36 have all of the powers, duties, and immunities, and are entitled to all

1 of the emoluments, including travel expenses, of regularly appointed
2 members of the commission.

Passed by the Senate April 23, 2013.

Passed by the House April 17, 2013.

Approved by the Governor May 14, 2013.

Filed in Office of Secretary of State May 14, 2013.