

CERTIFICATION OF ENROLLMENT

HOUSE BILL 2340

Chapter 59, Laws of 2026

69th Legislature
2026 Regular Session

NURSING ASSISTANTS—SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER MONITORING PROGRAM

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2026

Passed by the House February 10, 2026
Yeas 92 Nays 3

LAURIE JINKINS

**Speaker of the House of
Representatives**

Passed by the Senate March 4, 2026
Yeas 46 Nays 2

DENNY HECK

President of the Senate

Approved March 16, 2026 10:16 AM

BOB FERGUSON

Governor of the State of Washington

CERTIFICATE

I, Bernard Dean, Chief Clerk of the House of Representatives of the State of Washington, do hereby certify that the attached is **HOUSE BILL 2340** as passed by the House of Representatives and the Senate on the dates hereon set forth.

BERNARD DEAN

Chief Clerk

FILED

March 17, 2026

**Secretary of State
State of Washington**

HOUSE BILL 2340

Passed Legislature - 2026 Regular Session

State of Washington

69th Legislature

2026 Regular Session

By Representative Simmons

Prefiled 01/08/26. Read first time 01/12/26. Referred to Committee on Health Care & Wellness.

1 AN ACT Relating to the application of substance use disorder
2 monitoring program provisions to nursing assistants; amending RCW
3 18.79.440; and providing an effective date.

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

5 **Sec. 1.** RCW 18.79.440 and 2025 c 58 s 5028 are each amended to
6 read as follows:

7 (1) The department or board may not post information regarding an
8 enforcement action taken by the board against a person (~~licensed~~)
9 credentialed under this chapter or chapter 18.88A RCW, including any
10 supporting documents or indication that the enforcement action was
11 taken, on any public website when the following conditions are met:

12 (a) In connection with the enforcement action, the person has
13 been required by an order or agreement with the board to contact a
14 board-approved substance use disorder monitoring program authorized
15 by RCW 18.130.175, and if recommended by the program, to contract
16 with and participate in the program;

17 (b) The board has found that the person has substantially
18 complied with the terms of the order or agreement; and

19 (c) If the website is a third-party website, the department or
20 board has the ability to prevent information regarding the
21 enforcement action from being posted on the public website.

1 (2) Subject to the availability of amounts appropriated for this
2 specific purpose, the board shall establish a stipend program to
3 defray the out-of-pocket expenses incurred in connection with
4 participation in the board's approved substance use disorder
5 monitoring program authorized by RCW 18.130.175.

6 (3) To be eligible for the stipend program, a person must:

7 (a) Hold an active, inactive, or suspended ((license)) credential
8 issued pursuant to this chapter or chapter 18.88A RCW;

9 (b) Submit an application on forms provided by the board;

10 (c) Be actively participating in the board's approved substance
11 use disorder monitoring program or have completed the board's
12 approved substance use disorder monitoring program within six months
13 of submission of an application for the stipend program; and

14 (d) Have a demonstrated need for financial assistance with the
15 expenses incurred in connection with participation in the board's
16 approved substance use disorder monitoring program.

17 (4) A person is not eligible for the stipend program if they have
18 previously applied for and participated in the stipend program.

19 (5) The board may defray up to 80 percent of each out-of-pocket
20 expense deemed eligible for defrayment under this section.

21 (6) Out-of-pocket expenses eligible for defrayment under this
22 section include the costs of substance use evaluation, treatment, and
23 other ancillary services, including drug testing, participation in
24 professional peer support groups, and any other expenses deemed
25 appropriate by the board.

26 (7) A person participating in the stipend program established in
27 this section shall document their out-of-pocket expenses in a manner
28 specified by the board.

29 (8) The board must provide updated information on its website
30 regarding the total number of individuals that have participated in
31 the stipend program, the average total amount of eligible expenses
32 defrayed for each participant, the aggregated total amount of
33 expenses that have been defrayed for all individuals that have
34 participated in the stipend program, and the amount of funds
35 available for the stipend program.

36 ~~(9) ((The board shall establish the stipend program no later than~~
37 ~~July 1, 2024.~~

38 ~~(10))~~ The board may adopt rules necessary to implement this
39 section.

1 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** This act takes effect July 1, 2026.

Passed by the House February 10, 2026.

Passed by the Senate March 4, 2026.

Approved by the Governor March 16, 2026.

Filed in Office of Secretary of State March 17, 2026.

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