

CHAPTER 70

HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENT

HOUSE BILL 18-1086

BY REPRESENTATIVE(S) Buckner and Lundeen, Becker J., Beckman, Benavidez, Bridges, Coleman, Covarrubias, Danielson, Exum, Garnett, Ginal, Gray, Herod, Humphrey, Jackson, Kennedy, Landgraf, Lee, Lontine, Michaelson Jenet, Neville P., Pabon, Pettersen, Reyher, Roberts, Rosenthal, Saine, Salazar, Sandridge, Sias, Van Winkle, Weissman, Williams D., Wilson, Duran, Kraft-Tharp, McLachlan, Melton, Valdez, Winter, Young;
 also SENATOR(S) Neville T. and Aguilar, Cooke, Crowder, Fenberg, Fields, Garcia, Gardner, Guzman, Hill, Holbert, Jahn, Lambert, Marble, Moreno, Scott, Smallwood, Sonnenberg, Todd, Williams A., Grantham.

AN ACT**CONCERNING ALLOWING COMMUNITY COLLEGES TO OFFER A BACHELOR OF SCIENCE DEGREE IN NURSING.**

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Colorado:

SECTION 1. Legislative declaration. It is the intent of the general assembly to add to the role and mission of the state's community colleges the creation of a bachelor of science in nursing completion program that results in the awarding of a bachelor of science in nursing degree to successful candidates. It is the further intent of the general assembly that the state's community colleges comply with the requirements for degree programs set forth in section 23-1-107.

SECTION 2. In Colorado Revised Statutes, **amend** 23-60-201 as follows:

23-60-201. State system of community and technical colleges established - local district colleges - role and mission. There is hereby established a state system of community and technical colleges ~~which shall be~~ THAT IS under the management and jurisdiction of the state board for community colleges and occupational education. The mission of the community colleges ~~shall be~~ is to serve Colorado residents who reside in their service areas by offering a broad range of general, personal, career, and technical education programs, AS WELL AS BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN NURSING COMPLETION PROGRAMS THAT RESULT IN THE AWARDING OF A BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN NURSING DEGREE TO SUCCESSFUL CANDIDATES PURSUANT TO SECTION 23-60-211 (5). Except as provided in section 23-60-211, each college ~~shall~~ MUST be a two-year college. Each community college may offer two-year

Capital letters or bold & italic numbers indicate new material added to existing statutes; dashes through words indicate deletions from existing statutes and such material not part of act.

degree programs with or without academic designation, and, upon approval of the board pursuant to section 23-60-211, may offer technical, career, and workforce development bachelor of applied science degree programs. ~~No~~ A COMMUNITY college shall NOT impose admission requirements upon any student. ADMISSION TO A COMMUNITY COLLEGE DOES NOT GUARANTEE ENROLLMENT IN A SPECIFIC PROGRAM THAT HAS PREREQUISITES. The objects of the community and technical colleges shall be ARE to provide educational programs to fill the occupational needs of youth and adults in career and technical fields, two-year transfer educational programs to qualify students for admission to the junior year at other colleges and universities, basic skills, workforce development, and a broad range of personal and career education for adults, and technical, career, and workforce development bachelor of applied science degree programs established pursuant to section 23-60-211, that address the needs of the community within each community college service area.

SECTION 3. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 23-60-211, **amend** (4); and **add** (5) as follows:

23-60-211. Degrees. (4) Subject to the approval of the Colorado commission on higher education pursuant to section 23-1-133, the board may establish at community colleges within the state system technical, career, and workforce development bachelor of applied science degree programs. NOTWITHSTANDING THE PROVISIONS OF SUBSECTION (5) OF THIS SECTION, nothing in this section shall be construed to allow for the approval of bachelor of arts or bachelor of science degree programs.

(5) SUBJECT TO THE REQUIREMENTS OF SECTIONS 23-1-113.7 AND 23-1-107, AND NOTWITHSTANDING THE PROVISIONS OF SECTION 23-1-133, A COMMUNITY COLLEGE THAT IS PART OF THE STATE SYSTEM OF COMMUNITY AND TECHNICAL COLLEGES ESTABLISHED AND GOVERNED BY THIS PART 2 MAY, WITH BOARD APPROVAL, OFFER A BACHELOR OF SCIENCE DEGREE IN NURSING AS A COMPLETION DEGREE TO STUDENTS WHO HAVE OR ARE PURSUING AN ASSOCIATE DEGREE IN NURSING. IN CONSIDERING WHETHER TO APPROVE A REQUEST BY A COMMUNITY COLLEGE TO OFFER A BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN NURSING AS A COMPLETION DEGREE, THE BOARD SHALL CONSIDER STUDENT AND WORKFORCE DEMAND, COST EFFECTIVENESS FOR THE STUDENTS, AND ACCREDITATION AND LICENSING REQUIREMENTS. THE BOARD SHALL PROVIDE SUCH INFORMATION TO THE COLORADO COMMISSION ON HIGHER EDUCATION AND SOLICIT THE COMMISSION'S INPUT IN A JOINT MEETING OF THE BOARD AND THE COMMISSION. A COMMUNITY COLLEGE THAT IS SEEKING BOARD APPROVAL SHALL PROVIDE THE BOARD WITH DATA REGARDING ITS CURRENT PARTNERSHIPS WITH EXISTING BACHELOR OF SCIENCE NURSING DEGREE PROGRAMS AND ITS PLANS TO CONTINUE SUCH PARTNERSHIPS. AT LEAST NINETY DAYS PRIOR TO REQUESTING BOARD APPROVAL TO OFFER A BACHELOR OF SCIENCE DEGREE IN NURSING AS A COMPLETION DEGREE, THE COMMUNITY COLLEGE SEEKING SUCH BOARD APPROVAL SHALL PROVIDE NOTICE TO THE COLORADO COMMISSION ON HIGHER EDUCATION AND ALL STATE PUBLIC AND NONPUBLIC INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION.

SECTION 4. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 23-1-113.7, **add** (6) as follows:

23-1-113.7. Commission directive - nursing programs - employer-based gift

and scholarship fund - legislative declaration - reporting requirement.

(6) EACH STATE-SUPPORTED INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION THAT OFFERS A BACHELOR OF SCIENCE DEGREE IN NURSING SHALL SUBMIT AN ANNUAL REPORT TO THE DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION THAT INCLUDES THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION:

(a) THE NUMBER OF BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN NURSING DEGREES AND THE NUMBER OF ASSOCIATE NURSING DEGREES, IF ANY, AWARDED;

(b) THE NUMBER OF NURSING PROGRAM GRADUATES WHO PASSED THE STATE NURSING LICENSURE EXAMINATION; AND

(c) THE TOTAL TUITION FOR A STUDENT TO COMPLETE THE STATE-SUPPORTED INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION'S BACHELOR OF SCIENCE DEGREE IN NURSING PROGRAM.

SECTION 5. Safety clause. The general assembly hereby finds, determines, and declares that this act is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, and safety.

Became Law: March 24, 2018