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COMPARE House Bill 580 Nurse License Compact (NLC) to Current Illinois Department Financial and Professional Regulation (IDFPR) & State Board of Nursing (BON) Functions of Nurse Licensure & Discipline

HB 580 NCL “Purposes”

IDFPR/BON OVERSIGHT ALREADY PROTECTS IL

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| <p>The health and safety of the public are affected by the degree of compliance with and the effectiveness of enforcement activities related to state nurse licensure laws. Violations of nurse licensure and other laws regulating the practice of nursing may result in injury or harm to the public.</p> | <p>IDFPR currently conducts nurse investigation, prosecution, discipline hearings and discipline for violations of the practice act. BON conducts nursing all pre-licensure nursing education programs through an approval process and standards are maintained by the BON. State oversight keeps the public safe. Siphoning nurse staff from one state to fix another just creates a staffing shortfall in the “borrowed” state. Legislators can consider securing nurse staffing in HB 3871 or Safe Delegation in SB 1990</p> |
| <p>The expanded mobility of nurses and the use of advanced communication technologies as part of our nation's health care delivery system require greater coordination and cooperation among states in the areas of nurse licensure and regulation.</p> | <p>With regards to mobility - Governor Pritzker, in a matter of days, March 2020, enacted the Covid-19 Temporary Practice Permit for licensed nurses. These permits provided free applications for certain health care providers either recently retired with an inactive license, or licensed in other states, including LPNs, RNs and APRNs, to become licensed in Illinois to work in COVID-19 units. NLC has no APRNs in compacts. A resident of a non-compact state like IL can have as many single state licenses as they wish to work telemedicine. As for NCL “greater coordination” it’s the individual nurse’s responsibility to self-report any action taken by the BON against their license; to apply for licensure in a new state of residence whether non-compact to compact, Compact to Noncompact or Compact to Compact!</p> |
| <p>New practice modalities and technology make compliance with individual state nurse licensure laws difficult and complex.</p> | <p>All nurses currently can apply for licensure in Illinois and in other states. Every nurse is held culpable to specifics of any state nurse practice act law.</p> |
| <p>The current system of duplicative licensure for nurses practicing in multiple states is cumbersome and redundant for both nurses and states</p> | <p>Pages of HB 580 is redundant establishing an Interstate Commission of Nurse Licensure Compact, Coordinated Licensure Information System, an Administration – on license information IDFPR already collects & shares! BON & IDFPR already safeguards the public by approving nursing programs, licensing process as “required” BEFORE a nurse is ever issued a NLC multistate license. IDFPR has oversight of all licensed nurses throughout their nursing career.</p> |

Retrieved from <https://www.ilga.gov/legislation/102/HB/PDF/10200HB0580lv.pdf> & “Facts about the NLC” www.ncsbn.org/nlc

What HB 580 NCL FAILS to state is it proposes NOTHING NEW that IDFPR and the Illinois Board of Nursing ALREADY PROVIDES for licensing & oversight of nursing in Illinois, protecting our public in regulation.

WHAT HB 580 NCL FAILS to state 3.4 Million dollars lost revenue when 42,000 nurses’ licensure fee who do not live in Illinois goes back to their state coffers. 220,000 are licensed in IL. Will our fee increase?

WHAT HB 580 NCL FAILS to state Illinois has a nimble system to match nurses to emergency needs in days as occurred in Covid-19 Temporary Practice Permit. Appropriate nurse staffing law is a reliable solution!

WHAT HB 580 NCL FAILS to state the robust programs our fees fund for nursing in IL such as:

- Scholarships Program (\$2 million) for LPN, RN BSN completion and Graduate degrees. The scholarship program also includes in loan forgiveness.
- Care, Counseling, & Treatment Agreement to encourage to self-report getting nurses into treatment avoiding disciplinary action. A particular portion of every licensure fee goes to the CCT program.
- Illinois Nursing Workforce Center who is the only profession within the IDFPR that conducts the voluntary data with licensure renewals to identify nursing workforce issues to meet the public nursing needs.
- The Center is a resource for current and future nursing students, nursing educators and those nurses already practicing in the field to find information on affordable education options and scholarship opportunities, grants for nursing schools and improvements to working conditions for nurses.

HB580 NCL provides nothing new & defunds millions from IL nurse license fee programs