



**93RD GENERAL ASSEMBLY**  
**State of Illinois**  
**2003 and 2004**  
**SB2288**

Introduced 1/22/2004, by Miguel del Valle

**SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:**

225 ILCS 65/10-30

Amends the Nursing and Advanced Practice Nursing Act. Provides that an applicant for licensure by endorsement who is a registered professional nurse or a licensed practical nurse under the laws of another state or territory of the United States may, in lieu of taking and passing the examination required by the Department, have passed a state, regional, or national examination that is substantially equivalent to or more stringent than the examination given by the Department, if the applicant has actively practiced nursing in another state or territory of the United States for 2 of the preceding 3 years without having his or her license acted against by the licensing authority of any jurisdiction. Effective immediately.

LRB093 20232 AMC 45990 b

FISCAL NOTE ACT  
MAY APPLY

**A BILL FOR**

1 AN ACT concerning nurses.

2 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,**  
3 **represented in the General Assembly:**

4 Section 5. The Nursing and Advanced Practice Nursing Act is  
5 amended by changing Section 10-30 as follows:

6 (225 ILCS 65/10-30)

7 (Section scheduled to be repealed on January 1, 2008)

8 Sec. 10-30. Qualifications for licensure.

9 (a) Each applicant who successfully meets the requirements  
10 of this Section shall be entitled to licensure as a Registered  
11 Nurse or Licensed Practical Nurse, whichever is applicable.

12 (b) An applicant for licensure by examination to practice  
13 as a registered nurse or licensed practical nurse shall:

14 (1) submit a completed written application, on forms  
15 provided by the Department and fees as established by the  
16 Department;

17 (2) for registered nurse licensure, have graduated  
18 from a professional nursing education program approved by  
19 the Department;

20 (2.5) for licensed practical nurse licensure, have  
21 graduated ~~graduate~~ from a practical nursing education  
22 program approved by the Department;

23 (3) have not violated the provisions of Section 10-45  
24 of this Act. The Department may take into consideration any  
25 felony conviction of the applicant, but such a conviction  
26 shall not operate as an absolute bar to licensure;

27 (4) meet all other requirements as established by rule;

28 (5) pay, either to the Department or its designated  
29 testing service, a fee covering the cost of providing the  
30 examination. Failure to appear for the examination on the  
31 scheduled date at the time and place specified after the  
32 applicant's application for examination has been received

1 and acknowledged by the Department or the designated  
2 testing service shall result in the forfeiture of the  
3 examination fee.

4 If an applicant neglects, fails, or refuses to take an  
5 examination or fails to pass an examination for a license under  
6 this Act within 3 years after filing the application, the  
7 application shall be denied. However, the applicant may make a  
8 new application accompanied by the required fee and provide  
9 evidence of meeting the requirements in force at the time of  
10 the new application.

11 An applicant may take and successfully complete a  
12 Department-approved examination in another jurisdiction.  
13 However, an applicant who has never been licensed previously in  
14 any jurisdiction that utilizes a Department-approved  
15 examination and who has taken and failed to pass the  
16 examination within 3 years after filing the application must  
17 submit proof of successful completion of a  
18 Department-authorized nursing education program or  
19 recompletion of an approved registered nursing program or  
20 licensed practical nursing program, as appropriate, prior to  
21 re-application.

22 An applicant shall have one year from the date of  
23 notification of successful completion of the examination to  
24 apply to the Department for a license. If an applicant fails to  
25 apply within one year, the applicant shall be required to again  
26 take and pass the examination unless licensed in another  
27 jurisdiction of the United States within one year of passing  
28 the examination.

29 (c) An applicant for licensure by endorsement who is a  
30 registered professional nurse or a licensed practical nurse  
31 licensed by examination under the laws of another state or  
32 territory of the United States or a foreign country,  
33 jurisdiction, territory, or province shall:

34 (1) submit a completed written application, on forms  
35 supplied by the Department, and fees as established by the  
36 Department;

1 (2) for registered nurse licensure, have graduated  
2 from a professional nursing education program approved by  
3 the Department;

4 (2.5) for licensed practical nurse licensure, have  
5 graduated from a practical nursing education program  
6 approved by the Department;

7 (3) submit verification of licensure status directly  
8 from the United States jurisdiction of licensure, if  
9 applicable, as defined by rule;

10 (4) have passed the examination authorized by the  
11 Department;

12 (5) meet all other requirements as established by rule.

13 (c-5) An applicant for licensure by endorsement who is a  
14 registered professional nurse or a licensed practical nurse  
15 under the laws of another state or territory of the United  
16 States, in lieu of taking and passing the examination provided  
17 for in item (4) of subsection (c) of this Section, may have  
18 passed a state, regional, or national examination that is  
19 substantially equivalent to or more stringent than the  
20 examination given by the Department, if the applicant has  
21 actively practiced nursing in another state or territory of the  
22 United States for 2 of the preceding 3 years without having his  
23 or her license acted against by the licensing authority of any  
24 jurisdiction.

25 (d) All applicants for registered nurse licensure pursuant  
26 to item (2) of subsection (b) and item (2) of subsection (c) of  
27 this Section who are graduates of nursing educational programs  
28 in a country other than the United States or its territories  
29 must submit to the Department certification of successful  
30 completion of the Commission of Graduates of Foreign Nursing  
31 Schools (CGFNS) examination. An applicant who is unable to  
32 provide appropriate documentation to satisfy CGFNS of her or  
33 his educational qualifications for the CGFNS examination shall  
34 be required to pass an examination to test competency in the  
35 English language, which shall be prescribed by the Department,  
36 if the applicant is determined by the Board to be educationally

1 prepared in nursing. The Board shall make appropriate inquiry  
2 into the reasons for any adverse determination by CGFNS before  
3 making its own decision.

4 An applicant licensed in another state or territory who is  
5 applying for licensure and has received her or his education in  
6 a country other than the United States or its territories shall  
7 be exempt from the completion of the Commission of Graduates of  
8 Foreign Nursing Schools (CGFNS) examination if the applicant  
9 meets all of the following requirements:

10 (1) successful passage of the licensure examination  
11 authorized by the Department;

12 (2) holds an active, unencumbered license in another  
13 state; and

14 (3) has been actively practicing for a minimum of 2  
15 years in another state.

16 (e) (Blank).

17 (f) Pending the issuance of a license under subsection (c)  
18 of this Section, the Department may grant an applicant a  
19 temporary license to practice nursing as a registered nurse or  
20 as a licensed practical nurse if the Department is satisfied  
21 that the applicant holds an active, unencumbered license in  
22 good standing in another jurisdiction. If the applicant holds  
23 more than one current active license, or one or more active  
24 temporary licenses from other jurisdictions, the Department  
25 shall not issue a temporary license until it is satisfied that  
26 each current active license held by the applicant is  
27 unencumbered. The temporary license, which shall be issued no  
28 later than 14 working days following receipt by the Department  
29 of an application for the temporary license, shall be granted  
30 upon the submission of the following to the Department:

31 (1) a signed and completed application for licensure  
32 under subsection (a) of this Section as a registered nurse  
33 or a licensed practical nurse;

34 (2) proof of a current, active license in at least one  
35 other jurisdiction and proof that each current active  
36 license or temporary license held by the applicant within

1 the last 5 years is unencumbered;

2 (3) a signed and completed application for a temporary  
3 license; and

4 (4) the required temporary license fee.

5 (g) The Department may refuse to issue an applicant a  
6 temporary license authorized pursuant to this Section if,  
7 within 14 working days following its receipt of an application  
8 for a temporary license, the Department determines that:

9 (1) the applicant has been convicted of a crime under  
10 the laws of a jurisdiction of the United States: (i) which  
11 is a felony; or (ii) which is a misdemeanor directly  
12 related to the practice of the profession, within the last  
13 5 years;

14 (2) within the last 5 years the applicant has had a  
15 license or permit related to the practice of nursing  
16 revoked, suspended, or placed on probation by another  
17 jurisdiction, if at least one of the grounds for revoking,  
18 suspending, or placing on probation is the same or  
19 substantially equivalent to grounds in Illinois; or

20 (3) it intends to deny licensure by endorsement.

21 For purposes of this Section, an "unencumbered license"  
22 means a license against which no disciplinary action has been  
23 taken or is pending and for which all fees and charges are paid  
24 and current.

25 (h) The Department may revoke a temporary license issued  
26 pursuant to this Section if:

27 (1) it determines that the applicant has been convicted  
28 of a crime under the law of any jurisdiction of the United  
29 States that is (i) a felony or (ii) a misdemeanor directly  
30 related to the practice of the profession, within the last  
31 5 years;

32 (2) it determines that within the last 5 years the  
33 applicant has had a license or permit related to the  
34 practice of nursing revoked, suspended, or placed on  
35 probation by another jurisdiction, if at least one of the  
36 grounds for revoking, suspending, or placing on probation

1 is the same or substantially equivalent to grounds in  
2 Illinois; or

3 (3) it determines that it intends to deny licensure by  
4 endorsement.

5 A temporary license shall expire 6 months from the date of  
6 issuance. Further renewal may be granted by the Department in  
7 hardship cases, as defined by rule and upon approval of the  
8 Director. However, a temporary license shall automatically  
9 expire upon issuance of the Illinois license or upon  
10 notification that the Department intends to deny licensure,  
11 whichever occurs first.

12 (i) Applicants have 3 years from the date of application to  
13 complete the application process. If the process has not been  
14 completed within 3 years from the date of application, the  
15 application shall be denied, the fee forfeited, and the  
16 applicant must reapply and meet the requirements in effect at  
17 the time of reapplication.

18 (Source: P.A. 92-39, eff. 6-29-01; 92-744, eff. 7-25-02;  
19 revised 2-17-03.)

20 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon  
21 becoming law.