

House Bill 426

By: Representatives Jerguson of the 22nd, Cooper of the 41st, Purcell of the 159th, Buckner of the 130th, and Dempsey of the 13th

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend Code Section 43-26-3 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to
2 definitions relative to the "Georgia Registered Professional Nurse Practice Act," so as to
3 revise a definition; to provide for related matters; to provide for an effective date; to repeal
4 conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

6 style="text-align:center">**SECTION 1.**

7 Code Section 43-26-3 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to definitions
8 relative to the "Georgia Registered Professional Nurse Practice Act," is amended by revising
9 paragraph (1.2) as follows:

10 "(1.2) 'Approved nursing education program' located in this state means a nursing
11 education program approved by the board as meeting criteria established by the board.
12 An 'approved nursing education program' located outside this state means a nursing
13 education program that the board has determined to meet criteria similar to and not less
14 stringent than criteria established by the board. In order to be approved by the board, a
15 nursing education program must be one that is offered by:

16 (A) A unit of the University System of Georgia accredited by the Commission on
17 Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools;

18 (B) An institution of the Technical College System of Georgia accredited by the
19 Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools;

20 (C) A nonprofit postsecondary institution of higher education that is accredited by a
21 regional accrediting agency recognized by the United States Department of Education;

22 or

23 (D) A proprietary institution of higher education that is accredited by a regional
24 accrediting agency recognized by the United States Department of Education; or

25 (E) A nonprofit postsecondary institution of higher education that is a four-year
26 institution that is not accredited in accordance with subparagraph (C) of this paragraph.

27 but whose curriculum has been determined by the board to meet criteria similar to and
28 not less stringent than criteria established by the board for other approved nursing
29 education programs."

30

SECTION 2.

31 This Act shall become effective upon its approval by the Governor or upon its becoming law
32 without such approval.

33

SECTION 3.

34 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.