

The House Committee on Health and Human Services offers the following substitute to SB 100:

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 amend Chapter 26 of Title 43 of the Official Code of Georgia  
4 Annotated, relating to nurses, so as to prohibit the use of the title "nurse" unless licensed as  
5 a registered professional nurse or a licensed practical nurse; to provide for related matters;  
6 to provide for an effective date; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

7 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

8 SECTION 1.

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

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

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

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

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

24 or

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

27 (E) A nonprofit postsecondary institution of higher education that is a four-year  
28 institution that is not accredited in accordance with subparagraph (C) of this paragraph,  
29 but whose curriculum has been determined by the board to meet criteria similar to and  
30 not less stringent than criteria established by the board for other approved nursing  
31 education programs."

32 **SECTION 1A.**

33 Chapter 26 of Title 43 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to nurses, is  
34 amended in Code Section 43-26-6, relating to the use of certain titles by licensed registered  
35 nurses or advanced practice registered nurses, by adding a new subsection to read as follows:

36 "(d) No person shall use the title 'nurse' or any other title or abbreviation that would  
37 represent to the public that a person is authorized to practice nursing unless the person is  
38 licensed or otherwise authorized under this article or Article 2 of this chapter."

39 **SECTION 1B.**

40 Said chapter is further amended in Code Section 43-26-33, relating to the use of certain titles  
41 by licensed practical nurses or applicants, by adding a new subsection to read as follows:

42 "(c) No person shall use the title 'nurse' or any other title or abbreviation that would  
43 represent to the public that a person is authorized to practice nursing unless the person is  
44 licensed or otherwise authorized under this article or Article 1 of this chapter."

45 **SECTION 2.**

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

48 **SECTION 3.**

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