

SENATE BILL 137

J2, K3
SB 669/23 – FIN

(PRE-FILED)

4lr0629

By: **Senator Rosapepe**

Requested: September 13, 2023

Introduced and read first time: January 10, 2024

Assigned to: Finance

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Registered Nurse Degree Apprenticeship Program Workgroup**

3 FOR the purpose of establishing the Registered Nurse Degree Apprenticeship Program
4 Workgroup to study the feasibility of developing and implementing a registered
5 nurse degree apprenticeship program in the State; and generally relating to the
6 Registered Nurse Degree Apprenticeship Program Workgroup.

7 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
8 That:

9 (a) There is a Registered Nurse Degree Apprenticeship Program Workgroup.

10 (b) The Workgroup consists of the following members:

11 (1) two members of the Senate of Maryland, appointed by the President of
12 the Senate;

13 (2) two members of the House of Delegates, appointed by the Speaker of
14 the House;

15 (3) the Secretary of Health, or the Secretary's designee;

16 (4) the Secretary of Labor, or the Secretary's designee;

17 (5) one representative of the State Board of Nursing, designated by the
18 Chair of the Board;

19 (6) one representative of the Maryland Nurses Association, designated by
20 the President of the Board of Directors of the Association;

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 (7) one representative from the Maryland Association of County Health
2 Officers, designated by the President of the Association;

3 (8) one representative from the Maryland Organization of Nurse Leaders,
4 designated by the President of the Maryland Organization of Nurse Leaders;

5 (9) one representative of the Council of Deans and Directors of Maryland
6 School Nursing Programs, designated by the chair of the Council;

7 (10) two representatives of community colleges, designated by the President
8 of the Maryland Association of Community Colleges;

9 (11) one representative of the Chief Nursing Officers, designated by the
10 President of the Maryland Hospital Association;

11 (12) one representative from the Maryland Nursing Workforce Center at the
12 University of Maryland, Baltimore Campus, designated by the Director of the Center;

13 (13) one representative from LeadingAge Maryland, designated by the
14 President of LeadingAge Maryland;

15 (14) one representative from the Health Facilities Association of Maryland,
16 designated by the President of the Association;

17 (15) one representative from the Baltimore Alliance for Careers in
18 Healthcare, designated by the Executive Director of the Alliance;

19 (16) one representative from the University System of Maryland School of
20 Nursing, designated by the Dean of Nursing;

21 (17) one representative from LifeSpan Network, designated by the president
22 of the Network;

23 (18) one representative from a 4-year nursing degree program, designated
24 by the President of the Maryland Independent College and University Association;

25 (19) one representative of the Maryland Hospital Association, designated by
26 the President of the Association;

27 (20) one representative of the Governor's Workforce Development Board,
28 designated by the Chair of the Board;

29 (21) one representative of the Career and Technical Education Committee
30 established under § 21-207 of the Education Article, designated by the Chair of the
31 Committee; and

1 (22) the following members appointed by the Secretary of Health:

2 (i) one representative from an urgent care provider;

3 (ii) one representative from a federally qualified health center;

4 (iii) two representatives from nursing education programs at
5 community colleges and 4-year universities;

6 (iv) one representative from a nursing program at a historically
7 Black college or university;

8 (v) one representative from an urgent care trade group; and

9 (vi) one representative from a trade association for home health
10 providers.

11 (c) The Secretary of Health shall designate the chair of the Workgroup.

12 (d) The Maryland Department of Labor shall provide staff for the Workgroup.

13 (e) A member of the Workgroup:

14 (1) may not receive compensation as a member of the Workgroup; but

15 (2) is entitled to reimbursement for expenses under the Standard State
16 Travel Regulations, as provided in the State budget.

17 (f) The Workgroup shall:

18 (1) study the feasibility of developing and implementing a nurse
19 apprenticeship program in the State;

20 (2) review existing models of nurse apprenticeship programs in other
21 jurisdictions, including programs in Alabama, the United Kingdom, and other countries;
22 and

23 (3) make recommendations on:

24 (i) the framework for registered nurse and licensed practical nurse
25 degree apprenticeship programs that may be implemented in the State and that may begin
26 in high school and continue through all education needed for the different categories of
27 nurses, including for registered nurses and specialty certifications, and address
28 implementation questions, including:

29 1. determining the circumstances under which a clinical
30 educator may also be the student's supervisor in a work setting;

1 2. evaluating how an apprenticeship model may provide the
2 full range of supervised clinical education experiences; and

3 3. assessing how an apprenticeship model of education may
4 meet national and State standards to ensure the portability of nursing licensure for
5 Maryland registered nurses;

6 (ii) sustainable funding models for the nurse apprenticeship
7 programs recommended under item (i) of this item; and

8 (iii) the framework for postgraduate transition to practice programs
9 that may benefit from dual recognition as an industry–recognized apprenticeship program
10 by the U.S. Department of Labor and a Practice Transition Accreditation Program by the
11 American Nurses Credentialing Center.

12 (g) On or before April 1, 2025, the Workgroup shall report its findings and
13 recommendations to the Governor and, in accordance with § 2–1257 of the State
14 Government Article, the Senate Finance Committee and the House Health and
15 Government Operations Committee.

16 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July
17 1, 2024. It shall remain effective for a period of 1 year and, at the end of June 30, 2025, this
18 Act, with no further action required by the General Assembly, shall be abrogated and of no
19 further force and effect.