

## CHAPTER 603

(Senate Bill 704)

## AN ACT concerning

Maryland Higher Education Commission and the State Board of Nursing - Nursing Education Programs at Community Colleges

FOR the purpose of requiring the State--Board--for--Community Colleges--to--investigate-and-subsequently-implement-certain changes--in--the--nursing--education--curricula--at--certain educational--institutions--in--the--State;--requiring--the--Maryland--Higher--Education--Commission--to--develop--an educational--process--to--facilitate--the--entry--of--unlicensed nursing--care--providers--into--nursing--education--programs; requiring--the--Commission--to--develop--certain--relationships between--community--colleges--and--local--health--care--facilities; requiring--the--State--Board--for--Community--Colleges--to publicize--certain--programs--to--increase--recruitment--into nursing--education--programs; Maryland Higher Education Commission and the State Board of Nursing to establish a task force to investigate and make recommendations concerning certain changes in the nursing education curricula at certain education institutions in the State; providing that the Maryland Higher Education Commission and the State Board of Nursing may develop an educational process to facilitate the entry of unlicensed nursing care providers into certain nursing education programs; requiring the task force to report its findings and make certain recommendations by a certain date; requiring--the--Higher Education--Commission--and--the--State--Board--of--Nursing--to implement--the--findings--of--the--task--force--by--a--certain--date; and providing for the effective date of this Act; and providing for the termination of this Act.

## Preamble

WHEREAS, There is a need to develop a comprehensive nursing education system to encourage advancement within the nursing profession;

WHEREAS, A comprehensive nursing education system would encourage current unlicensed nursing care providers to continue their nursing education, thereby helping to relieve shortages within the nursing profession; and

WHEREAS, Nurses and unlicensed nursing care providers are deterred from pursuing further nursing education programs because of costs and other restrictions; now, therefore,