

Senate Joint Resolution requesting the Maryland State Department of Education, Division of Vocational Education, and the Maryland State Board of Examiners of Nurses to take appropriate steps to enable low-income working adults to obtain a practical nursing education which would qualify them to write the examination for practical nurse licensure, and to disseminate information concerning available opportunities for such working adults and to request the local Departments of Employment Security to make known health manpower needs.

WHEREAS, There is a continuing need for Licensed Practical Nurses in most health services; and

WHEREAS, Employers of practical nurses licensed by the waiver clause of the Nurses Licensing Act have found that many times these individuals cannot be utilized in positions usually assigned to Licensed Practical Nurses because they do not have the necessary competency achieved by those educated in a formal practical nursing education program; and

WHEREAS, There are presently in operation federally financed programs of practical nursing education leading to practical nurse licensure which provide financial assistance to those of low income who, without additional funds provided by the Federal Government, could not afford to pursue practical nursing education while providing for themselves and their families the necessities of life; now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Maryland State Department of Education, Division of Vocational Education, and the Maryland State Board of Examiners of Nurses are strongly urged to encourage the expansion of the existing programs of practical nursing and encourage innovations in practical nurse education that will enable low-income working adults to obtain a practical nursing education which would qualify them to write the examination for practical nurse licensure; and be it further

*Resolved*, That the Maryland State Department of Education, Division of Vocational Education is requested to disseminate information to hospitals and nursing homes concerning the opportunities presently available for working adults to enter programs of practical nursing; and be it further

*Resolved*, That the local Departments of Employment Security are requested to work more closely with community health service facilities in order to assess the health manpower needs and make these known to the Maryland State Department of Education, Division of Vocational Education; and be it further

*Resolved*, That copies of this Joint Resolution be sent to the Maryland State Department of Education, Division of Vocational Education; the Department of Adult Education of the Montgomery County Public Schools; the Maryland State Board of Examiners of Nurses;