

WHEREAS, The General Assembly of Maryland wishes to encourage qualified students to pursue the nursing profession so that older adults may receive better care, now, therefore,

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That section(s) of the Annotated Code of Maryland be repealed, amended, or enacted to read as follows:

Article - Education

18-805.

(A) (1) IN THIS SECTION THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS INDICATED.

{2}--"GERONTOLOGICAL FACILITY" MEANS ANY PRIVATE OR PUBLIC HEALTH CARE FACILITY THAT PROVIDES SERVICES TO PATIENTS, MOST OF WHOM ARE ELDERLY ADULTS.

{3}--"GERONTOLOGICAL NURSE" MEANS AN INDIVIDUAL LICENSED TO PRACTICE NURSING IN THIS STATE WHO

{i}--PROVIDES NURSING SERVICES,

{ii}--PERFORMS---PRIMARILY---ADMINISTRATIVE DUTIES IN A GERONTOLOGICAL FACILITY, OR

{iii}--TEACHES GERONTOLOGICAL NURSING.

{4}--"GERONTOLOGICAL NURSING EDUCATION PROGRAM" MEANS A PROGRAM OF NURSING INSTRUCTION WHICH INCLUDES BOTH THEORY AND CLINICAL PRACTICE IN THE FIELD OF GERONTOLOGICAL NURSING AND WHICH IS APPROVED BY THE STATE BOARD OF NURSING EXAMINERS.

{5} (2) "INSTITUTION" MEANS AN INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION OR A HOSPITAL IN THIS STATE THAT CONDUCTS A STATE APPROVED PROGRAM FOR POST SECONDARY EDUCATION APPROVED TO OPERATE BY THE STATE BOARD OF HIGHER EDUCATION AND WHICH AWARDS GRADUATE NURSING DEGREES.

{i}--AWARDING--DEGREES---OR---DIPLOMAS---IN NURSING,

{ii}--EDUCATING---STUDENTS---TO--APPLY--FOR LICENSE IN THIS STATE AS REGISTERED NURSES, OR

{iii}--EDUCATING--STUDENTS--TO--APPLY--FOR LICENSE IN THIS STATE AS PRACTICAL NURSES.

{6}--"NURSING---STUDENT"---MEANS---AN---INDIVIDUAL ENROLLED IN A NURSING EDUCATION PROGRAM AT AN INSTITUTION.

(3) "NURSING SHORTAGE AREA" MEANS A RECOGNIZED AREA OF NURSING SERVICE OR SPECIALIZATION, SUCH AS