

take certain disciplinary actions; requiring the Board to provide legal counsel in case a member of the Committee or Board is sued for defamation by a nursing assistant; providing for certain penalties; and generally relating to nursing assistants who are in the rehabilitation program of the State Board of Nursing.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article - Health Occupations

Section 8-208(j) through (p) and 8-6A-10(a)(29) and (30)

Annotated Code of Maryland

(1994 Replacement Volume and 1999 Supplement)

BY adding to

Article - Health Occupations

Section 8-6A-10(a)(31)

Annotated Code of Maryland

(1994 Replacement Volume and 1999 Supplement)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

Article - Health Occupations

8-208.

(j) In addition to the powers set forth elsewhere in this subtitle, the Committee may:

- (1) Evaluate those nurses OR NURSING ASSISTANTS who request participation in the program according to the guidelines prescribed by the Board and consider the recommendations for admission into the program;
- (2) Review and designate those treatment facilities and services to which nurses OR NURSING ASSISTANTS in the program may be referred;
- (3) Receive and review information concerning a nurse OR NURSING ASSISTANT participating in the program;
- (4) Consider in the case of each nurse OR NURSING ASSISTANT participating in a program whether the nurse OR NURSING ASSISTANT may with safety continue or resume the practice of nursing; and
- (5) Have meetings as necessary to consider the requests of nurses OR NURSING ASSISTANTS to participate in the program, and consider reports regarding nurses OR NURSING ASSISTANTS participating in the program.

(k) In addition to the duties set forth elsewhere in this subtitle, the Committee shall:

- (1) Prepare reports to be submitted to the Board; and