

HOUSE BILL 626

Introduced by Nelson, et al.

2/05	Introduced
2/05	Referred to Business & Economic Development
2/06	First Reading
2/06	Fiscal Note Requested
2/12	Fiscal Note Received
2/15	Fiscal Note Printed
2/18	Hearing
2/18	Tabled in Committee

1 *House* BILL NO. *626*  
 2 INTRODUCED BY *[Signature]*  
 3 *Kjehnkis NATH*

4 A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT TO ALLOW NURSES FROM  
 5 CANADA TO APPLY FOR A LICENSE TO PRACTICE AS A REGISTERED  
 6 PROFESSIONAL NURSE IN MONTANA WITHOUT TAKING AN ENGLISH  
 7 PROFICIENCY EXAMINATION; AMENDING SECTION 37-8-406, MCA; AND  
 8 PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE."

9  
 10 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

11 **Section 1.** Section 37-8-406, MCA, is amended to read:

12 "37-8-406. License -- professional nursing --  
 13 examination. (1) An applicant for a license to practice as a  
 14 registered professional nurse is required to pass a written  
 15 examination in subjects the board determines necessary. A  
 16 written examination may be supplemented by an oral or  
 17 practical examination. The board may use any national  
 18 standardized examination for professional nurse licensure  
 19 identified in its rules. The passing score on such  
 20 examination shall be established by the board in its rules.  
 21 On successfully passing the examination, an applicant shall  
 22 be issued a license to practice professional nursing.

23 (2) The board shall establish in its rules the  
 24 requirements for rewriting the examination for those persons  
 25 failing the examination on the first writing and subsequent

1 writing.  
 2 (3) Notwithstanding any other provision of this  
 3 chapter, an applicant for a license to practice as a  
 4 registered professional nurse may not be required to pass an  
 5 English proficiency examination if the applicant:  
 6 (a) is licensed or registered as a professional nurse  
 7 under the laws of a Canadian province; and  
 8 (b) speaks English as a first language."  
 9 NEW SECTION. Section 2. Effective date. (This act) is  
 10 effective July 1, 1991.

-End-



INTRODUCED BILL  
 HB 626  
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STATE OF MONTANA - FISCAL NOTE  
Form BD-15

In compliance with a written request, there is hereby submitted a Fiscal Note for HB0626, as introduced.

DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION:

An act to allow nurses from Canada to apply for a license to practice as a registered professional nurse in Montana without taking an English proficiency examination.

ASSUMPTIONS:

1. Approximately 50 applicants from Canada will apply for nursing licenses in the state of Montana each year.
2. Pursuant to the proposed amendments to 37-8-406, MCA, applicants who are English-speaking, registered nurses from Canada are not required to pass an English proficiency examination.
3. The Board of Nursing cannot use its national examination for Canadian applicants because it includes tests for English proficiency. Outside of the national examination, the Board of Nursing does not have the expertise to determine educational equivalency.
4. The Board of Nursing must contract the services of experts to determine the educational equivalency of Canadian nursing applicants at a cost of approximately \$80 per hour. Each applicant will take approximately two hours to evaluate.
5. Current law is represented by the executive budget recommendation for the Board of Nursing of the Dept. of Commerce.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Board of Nursing:

Expenditures:


	FY '92			FY '93		
	<u>Current Law</u>	<u>Proposed Law</u>	<u>Difference</u>	<u>Current Law</u>	<u>Proposed Law</u>	<u>Difference</u>
FTE	2.00	2.00	0.00	2.00	2.00	0.00
Personal Services	79,039	79,039	0	78,870	78,870	0
Operating Costs	233,496	241,496	8,000	232,549	240,549	8,000
Equipment	326	326	0	326	326	0
Total	312,861	320,861	8,000	311,745	319,745	8,000

Funding:

State Special Revenues	312,861	320,861	8,000	311,745	319,745	8,000
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Revenues:

License Fees (02)	280,290	288,290	8,000	280,290	288,290	8,000
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 ROD SUNDSTED, BUDGET DIRECTOR      2-11-91      DATE  
 Office of Budget and Program Planning

  
 LINDA NELSON, PRIMARY SPONSOR      DATE

Fiscal Note for HB0626, as introduced

**HB 626**