



HOUSE BILL 382: Registered Nurses in Schools.

2023-2024 General Assembly

Committee: House Education - K-12. If favorable, re-refer to Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House **Date:** March 28, 2023

Introduced by: Reps. Bradford, White, Cotham, Cunningham **Prepared by:** Brian Gwyn

Analysis of: PCS to First Edition **Committee Co-Counsel**
H382-CSBE-11

OVERVIEW: *House Bill 382 would allow licensed registered nurses who have at least two years of experience in a hospital or health clinic to be employed as school nurses without being required to obtain any other certification or license. Registered nurses employed as school nurses would be paid on the certified school nurse pay scale. The PCS would do the following:*

- Remove the requirement that registered nurses employed as school nurses be paid on the certified school nurse pay scale.
- Make various clarifying and technical changes.

CURRENT LAW: The State Board of Education's (SBE) [Salary Manual](#) requires all school nurses employed since July 1, 1998, to be nationally certified. Public schools can employ non-nationally certified school nurses, so long as they become nationally certified within three years of their hire date.

Nationally certified school nurses are paid on the classroom teacher's master's degree ("M") salary schedule according to their years of experience. Non-nationally certified school nurses are paid on the noncertified nurse salary schedule.

G.S. 115C-315(d1) prohibits school nurses employed in public schools prior to July 1, 1998, from being required to be nationally certified to continue employment. School nurses not certified by the American Nurses' Association or the National Association of School Nurses must be paid based on the noncertified nurse salary range as established by the SBE.

BILL ANALYSIS: The PCS would allow licensed registered nurses who have at least two years of experience in a hospital or health clinic to be employed as school nurses without being required to obtain any other certification or license. School nurses not certified by a national organization recognized by the SBE would continue to be paid based on the noncertified nurse salary range. The SBE would be authorized to adopt temporary rules to enact the requirements of the PCS.

EFFECTIVE DATE: The PCS would be effective when it becomes law.

Jeffrey Hudson
Director



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Legislative Analysis
Division
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