

## LEGISLATIVE BILL 890

Approved by the Governor April 7, 1988

Introduced by Nelson, 35; Smith, 33

AN ACT relating to nursing; to amend sections 85-943 and 85-948, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, 1943; to eliminate the associate degree program in nursing at the University of Nebraska; to change provisions relating to an advisory committee; to require a plan as prescribed; to provide severability; to repeal the original sections; and to declare an emergency.

Be it enacted by the people of the State of Nebraska,

Section 1. That section 85-943, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, 1943, be amended to read as follows:

85-943. The University of Nebraska may continue to offer the associate degree, diploma, and certificate-in-course in agriculturally related fields, ~~nursing~~; radiologic technology, radiation therapy, nuclear medicine technology, and engineering technology. The University of Nebraska shall not offer associate degrees or less than associate-degree-level diplomas or certificates-in-course after September 1, 1980, in other than designated programs.

Sec. 2. That section 85-948, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, 1943, be amended to read as follows:

85-948. The University of Nebraska shall have sole responsibility for ~~associate degree programs in nursing and for~~ baccalaureate, first professional, master's, and doctoral programs in the health professions to include medicine, dentistry, pharmacy, nursing, and the allied health professions, with the exception of the baccalaureate nursing program at Kearney State College and baccalaureate programs in the allied health professions established at the state colleges prior to June 1, 1977.

A representative from the The University of Nebraska, the technical community college areas, ~~and the state colleges, the independent colleges and universities, the Nebraska Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education, and the Department of Health~~ shall establish a joint advisory committee to insure

coordinated program development and delivery in nursing education. The committee shall develop a preliminary plan for nursing education by November 15, 1988, which shall include, but not be limited to: (1) The identification of current and future nursing education needs; (2) the identification of necessary procedures to better coordinate existing nursing programs and to coordinate new programs with existing programs; (3) the development of uniform procedures and formats for documenting program need, cost, impact on other programs, and availability of appropriate clinical experiences; and (4) the development of policies and procedures to promote maximum educational mobility and transfer of course credit between different levels of nursing education and licensure. A copy of the preliminary plan shall be delivered to the Nebraska Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education and the Board of Nursing by November 21, 1988. The commission and the board shall make comments regarding the plan and report such comments to the Education Committee and Appropriations Committee of the Legislature by January 16, 1989.

All new and existing nursing programs shall provide documentation concerning current and projected program need, cost, impact on other programs, availability of appropriate clinical experiences, policies and procedures for transfer of credit and educational mobility, and any other data required by the plan for nursing education. Documentation for existing programs shall be completed by December 31, 1989, or by the program review date established with the Nebraska Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education, whichever is later. Documentation shall be submitted to the appropriate institutional governing board and the Nebraska Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education and integrated into the plan for nursing education when available. Documentation for new programs shall be completed and submitted to the appropriate institutional governing board and the Nebraska Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education before programs may be initiated. All documentation shall be made available to the public on request.

The joint advisory committee shall update the plan for nursing education as needed but not less often than biennially. Existing programs shall redocument program need every five years beginning on December 31, 1989, and in the allied health professions. The state colleges may develop new baccalaureate programs in the

allied health professions in cooperation with the University of Nebraska-

Sec. 3. If any section in this act or any part of any section shall be declared invalid or unconstitutional, such declaration shall not affect the validity or constitutionality of the remaining portions thereof.

Sec. 4. That original sections 85-943 and 85-948, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, 1943, are repealed.

Sec. 5. Since an emergency exists, this act shall be in full force and take effect, from and after its passage and approval, according to law.