

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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NEW DRAFT.

SEVENTY-SEVENTH LEGISLATURE

HOUSE

NO. 528

House of Representatives, March 4, 1915.

*Reported by Mr. Perkins from Committee on Legal Affairs
and ordered printed under joint rules.*

FORTUNAT BELLEAU, Clerk, Pro Tem.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD ONE THOUSAND NINE
HUNDRED AND FIFTEEN

AN ACT to Create a Board of Examination and Registration
of Nurses.

Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine, as follows:

Section 1. Within sixty days after this bill shall go into
2 effect the Governor with the advice and consent of the Coun-
3 cil shall appoint a Board of Examination and Registration of
4 Nurses, consisting of four nurses and one physician.

The nurses appointed on this board shall have been grad-
6 uated each from a different training school, connected with
7 a hospital of good standing, presided over by a graduate
8 nurse, giving at least a two years' general course in theory
9 and practice of nursing in the wards and shall have had at
10 least five years' experience from date of graduation in pro-

11 fessional nursing of the sick, and with the exception of those
12 appointed as members of this first board shall have been
13 registered under the provisions of this act.

The physician appointed on this board shall have been
15 graduated at least five years, shall be a member of the Maine
16 Medical Association, and shall be associated with a general
17 hospital maintaining a training school for nurses.

There shall be at all times at least two members of the board
19 who shall have had two or more years' experience in educa-
20 tional work among nurses.

All members of this board shall be actual residents of the
22 state and engaged in professional work. Each member shall
23 be appointed for a term of three years, except those first ap-
24 pointed who shall serve as follows: one for one year, two
25 for two years, and two for three years. Any vacancy in
26 said board shall be filled by the appointment of a person qual-
27 ified as aforesaid to hold office during the unexpired term
28 of the member whose place he or she fills, and any member
29 may be removed from office for cause by the Governor with
30 the advice and consent of the Council.

Sect. 2. Said board shall, at the first meeting thereof, and
2 at its annual meetings thereafter, elect from its own number
3 a president and a secretary who shall also be treasurer. Said
4 board may adopt a seal and pin, which shall be placed in the
5 care of the secretary and may adopt such by-laws, rules and
6 regulations for the transaction of the business of the board
7 and the government and management of its affairs, not in-

8 consistent with the laws of this state and of the United States,
10 shall constitute a quorum, and special meetings shall be called
9 as it may deem expedient. Three members of said board
11 upon request of any two members. The secretary shall be
12 required to keep a record of all meetings of the board, includ-
13 ing a register of the names of all nurses duly registered un-
14 der this act which shall be open at all reasonable times to
15 public scrutiny and to furnish a certificate of registration to
16 all such nurses, said certificate to be renewed at the end of
17 five years upon payment of one dollar to the Examining
18 Board, with affidavit to show his or her identity, at least three
19 months' notice having been given, by registered letter, of ex-
20 piration of said certificate. The board shall provide a sched-
21 ule of the subjects upon which applicants shall be examined
22 to qualify for the requirements of this act. On request of
23 said board, the Superintendent of Public Buildings shall pro-
24 vide a suitable room in the Capitol for its meetings.

Sect. 3. The members of said board shall receive their
2 actual necessary expenses incurred in the discharge of their
3 duties, and the secretary shall receive a salary to be fixed by
4 the board, not to exceed two hundred and fifty dollars per
5 year. The other members of the board shall each receive
6 four dollars per day while actually engaged in attendance
7 upon meetings of said board. Said expenses and said salary
8 shall be paid out of the receipts of said board as hereinafter
9 specified. No charge or expense of any kind shall ever be-
10 come a charge against the state.

Sect. 4. At a meeting of said board to be held within sixty
2 days after the appointment of members thereof and at the
3 annual meeting in each year thereafter and at such special
4 meetings as said board may deem necessary to hold for that
5 purpose, notice of each of which meetings shall be given
6 by publication at least one month previous to such meetings
7 in such newspapers and nursing Journals as the board may
8 determine, said board shall examine all applicants for reg-
9 istration under the provisions of this act to determine their
10 qualifications for the efficient nursing of the sick, and shall
11 decide upon the qualifications of every such applicant and
12 give notice of such decision within three months from the
13 date of such examination. Application for registration shall
14 be made upon blanks furnished by the board and shall be
15 signed and sworn to by applicant. Any person twenty-one
16 years of age or over and of good moral character who shall
17 show to the satisfaction of the board that he or she is a resi-
18 dent of the state, is a graduate of a training school for nurses
19 in good standing, which gives at least a two years' course in
20 a public or private hospital in which a general course of in-
21 struction in theory and practice of medical, surgical and ob-
22 stetrical nursing, or in case of male nurses of genito-urinary
23 work instead of obstetrics, is given, or has had such expe-
24 rience obtained by affiliation or post-graduate work, shall
25 be eligible for such examination upon payment of a fee of
26 five dollars, to be deposited upon the filing of the application
27 for examination. Said examination shall be oral and written

28 and shall include the subjects of elementary anatomy and
29 physiology, materia medica, medical, surgical and obstetrical
30 nursing, dietetics, home sanitation and nursing. If such
31 applicant shall pass said examination to the satisfaction of
32 the board, he or she shall receive a certificate of registration.

Sect. 5. Any resident of the state twenty-one years of age
2 or over, and of good moral character, applying for registra-
3 tion within two years from the passage of this act, and who
4 shall, by affidavit or otherwise, show to the satisfaction of
5 the board that he or she is a graduate of a training school
6 for nurses, which gives at least a two years' course in a pub-
7 lic or private hospital where a general course of instruction
8 is given, or that he or she was, at the passage of this act, a
9 student in such a training school for nurses, and afterwards
10 was graduated therefrom, shall be eligible for registration
11 without examination, upon the payment of a fee of five dol-
12 lars. The board shall have the power to register in like man-
13 ner without examination, upon payment of the usual fee,
14 any person who has been registered as a professional nurse
15 in another state under laws, which in the opinion of the
16 board, maintain a standard substantially similar to that of
17 this act, and which extends a similar courtesy to nurses reg-
18 istered in this state.

Sect. 6. Said board may cancel the registration of any per-
2 son who has been convicted of any felony, or of any crime
3 or misdemeanor in the practice of the profession of nursing.

Sect. 7. It shall be unlawful after six months from the

2 passage of this act, for any person to practice professional
3 nursing in this state as a registered nurse without having
4 a certificate of registration. A nurse who has received such
5 certificate and pin shall be styled and known as a "Registered
6 Nurse," and no other person shall assume such title, use
7 the pin, the abbreviation "R. N." or any other words, letters,
8 or figures to indicate that the person using the same is such
9 a registered nurse. Every person who shall violate any pro-
10 vision of this act, or who shall wilfully make false representa-
11 tion to said board in applying for a certificate of registration,
12 shall be fined not more than one hundred dollars; provided,
13 that nothing in this act shall be held to apply to the acts
14 of any person nursing the sick who does not represent him-
15 self or herself to be a registered nurse. The board shall
16 cause to be presented to the proper prosecuting officer evi-
17 dence of any violation of the provision of this act and may
18 incur any necessary expenses in the performance of this
19 duty, said expenses to be paid out of the receipts of said
20 board.

Sect. 8. The treasurer shall receive all fees payable to the
2 board and shall quarterly on the last secular days of March,
3 June, September and December, account for and pay to the
4 Treasurer of State all sums so received which shall be kept
5 by the Treasurer of State as a separate fund for the payment
6 of the compensation and expenses of the members and the
7 expenses of the board and for executing the provisions of
8 law relating hereto and so much thereof as may be required

9 is hereby appropriated for said purposes. The secretary shall
10 also be reimbursed for all expenditures for books, printing,
11 and other necessary expenses actually incurred in the dis-
12 charge of his duties, but in no event shall payment for ser-
13 vices and expenses of members of the board exceed the
14 amounts received by the Treasurer of State from the treas-
15 urer of said board. Any balance remaining to the credit of
16 the board at the end of each year shall be carried forward
17 to the next year. The treasurer of the board shall, before
18 taking office, give to the state a bond with surety conditioned
19 for the faithful performance of the duties of said office in
20 the penal sum of not less than five hundred dollars. The
21 board shall also submit to the Governor on or before the first
22 day of January in each year a general statement of the work
23 of the board for the year preceding, including therein a state-
24 ment of the number of applicants received during the year,
25 the number approved, and the number rejected.