

1 SB44
2 134149-2
3 By Senator Whatley
4 RFD: Finance and Taxation Education
5 First Read: 07-FEB-12
6 PFD: 09/23/2011

1 SB44

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4 ENGROSSED

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7 A BILL
8 TO BE ENTITLED
9 AN ACT

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11 To amend Sections 34-21-60, 34-21-61, 34-21-62, and
12 34-21-63, Code of Alabama 1975, relating to graduate degree
13 scholarships for nurses; to increase the amount of such
14 scholarships; to require applicants to meet additional
15 qualifications; and to require any appropriation to fund the
16 scholarships be made through the Education Trust Fund.

17 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

18 Section 1. Sections 34-21-60, 34-21-61, 34-21-62,
19 and 34-21-63 of the Code of Alabama 1975, are amended to read
20 as follows:

21 "§34-21-60.

22 "There shall be established for the fiscal year
23 ending September 30, ~~1978, 15~~ 2012, scholarships for
24 ~~post-baccalaureate~~ graduate education of nurses. These
25 scholarships shall be awarded to applicants from the State of
26 Alabama at large. They shall be distributed, insofar as

1 practicable, throughout the state. The number of scholarships
2 shall equal five percent of the total enrollment in graduate
3 nursing programs in Alabama. Each scholarship is limited to
4 ten thousand dollars (\$10,000).

5 "§34-21-61.

6 "(a) To be eligible to receive a scholarship
7 provided by this article, ~~a person must have been~~ an applicant
8 shall satisfy all of the following requirements:

9 "(1) Be a resident of the State of Alabama for a
10 period of at least one year immediately preceding the time of
11 making application, ~~must be.~~

12 "(2) Be a person of good character ~~and shall have~~
13 ~~been.~~

14 "(3) Have an active, unencumbered license as a
15 professional nurse in Alabama.

16 "(4) Be accepted for ~~matriculation in a~~ an Alabama
17 graduate nursing program conducted by an accredited ~~school of~~
18 ~~nursing, must hold a baccalaureate degree in nursing from an~~
19 ~~accredited nursing school and must agree~~ college or
20 university.

21 "(5) Agree to practice professional nursing in the
22 State of Alabama for at least ~~one year~~ two years after
23 completing the ~~course in~~ graduate ~~study~~ degree.

24 "(b) Preference shall be given to applicants
25 pursuing a career in nursing education.

1 "(c) These scholarships ~~will~~ shall be available to
2 ~~students~~ applicants seeking master's or doctorate degrees in
3 nursing. Doctorate degrees in education are also acceptable
4 provided the applicant holds a graduate degree in nursing.

5 "(d) Application for these scholarships shall be
6 made to the Alabama Board of Nursing. The Board of Nursing
7 shall receive five percent of the total appropriation to
8 administer the scholarships.

9 "\$34-21-62.

10 "Each scholarship provided for by this article shall
11 ~~be in the amount of \$3,800~~ not exceed ten thousand dollars
12 (\$10,000) per year, payable from funds appropriated to the
13 Alabama Board of Nursing for this purpose. Contingent upon
14 subsequent legislative funding of this program, a scholarship
15 may either be renewed by the Alabama Board of Nursing for the
16 same student or awarded to another applicant for the
17 scholarship. Criteria for the selection of recipients and
18 awarding of the scholarships shall be established by the
19 Alabama Board of Nursing. These criteria shall be used as
20 guides in the selection of the scholarship recipients from the
21 various geographical areas of the state. In case a scholarship
22 student fails to complete the course prescribed for a graduate
23 degree in nursing, that student shall repay the amount of any
24 scholarship funds received hereunder to the State Treasury. In
25 the event of the scholarship recipient's death, the obligation
26 for funds disbursed and not repaid shall be cancelled. In the

1 event the scholarship recipient becomes mentally or physically
2 impaired and is unable to complete a graduate course in
3 nursing, or has received a graduate degree but is unable to
4 complete one year of service as a nurse due to such
5 disability, the obligation for funds disbursed and not repaid
6 shall be cancelled.

7 "§34-21-63.

8 ~~"There is hereby appropriated each year, beginning~~
9 ~~with the fiscal year ending September 30, 1978, to the Alabama~~
10 ~~Board of Nursing, out of any funds in the State Treasury to~~
11 ~~the credit of the Education Trust Fund, the sum of \$57,000, to~~
12 ~~be used solely for funding scholarships provided by this~~
13 ~~article. The Any appropriation provided in this section is in~~
14 ~~addition to any appropriations heretofore made, or to fund the~~
15 ~~scholarships may be made, through the Education Trust Fund to~~
16 ~~the Alabama Board of Nursing for each fiscal year."~~

17 Section 2. This act shall become effective
18 immediately following its passage and approval by the
19 Governor, or its otherwise becoming law.

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3 Senate

4 Read for the first time and referred to the Senate
5 committee on Finance and Taxation Education 07-FEB-12
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7 Read for the second time and placed on the calen-
8 dar 1 amendment..... 08-FEB-12
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10 Read for the third time and passed as amended 09-FEB-12

11 Yeas 27
12 Nays 0

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15 Patrick Harris
16 Secretary
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