

**[ REPUBLIC ACT NO. 4704, June 18, 1966 ]**

**AN ACT TO AMEND CERTAIN SECTIONS OF REPUBLIC ACT  
NUMBERED EIGHT HUNDRED SEVENTY-SEVEN, OTHERWISE  
KNOWN AS THE "PHILIPPINE NURSING LAW."**

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Philippines in  
Congress assembled:*

SECTION 1. Section two of Republic Act Numbered Eight hundred seventy-seven is hereby amended to read as follows:

"SEC. 2. *Name and composition of the Board.*—The Board shall be known as the Board of Examiners for Nurses and shall be composed of a chairman and four members who shall be appointed by the President of the Philippines with the consent of the commission on appointments, from a list of twelve nominees of registered nurses if recognized standing in the Philippines, as may be certified equally by the officially recognized national association of nurses in the Philippines and possessing the qualifications prescribed in section four of this Act."

SEC. 2. Section four of Republic Act Numbered Eight hundred seventy-seven is hereby amended to read as follows:

"SEC. 4. *Qualifications of Board members.*—The members the Board shall, at the time of appointment:

- a. Be a citizen and resident of the Philippines;
- b. Be a registered nurse, a holder of the degree of master of arts in nursing conferred by a reputable school, university, duly recognized by the government with preference for holders of higher degrees in nursing: *Provided, however,* That present members who are not holders of masters degree are not affected until after the end of their respective terms;
- c. Be mentally and physically fit and not over sixty-five years of age;
- d. Have had at least ten years of successful practice of the profession prior to appointment;
- e. Not have been convicted of any offense involving moral turpitude;
- f. Not be a member of the faculty of any school college or university during one year immediately preceding appointment as member of the Board of Examiners where undergraduate nursing or where any branch of the nursing course is taught, nor have directly or indirectly any pecuniary interest in such institution."

SEC. 3. Section five of Republic Act Numbered Eight hundred seventy-seven is hereby amended to read as follows:

"SEC. 5. *Term of office.*—The members of the Board shall hold office for a term of three years or until their successors shall have been appointed and duly qualified: *Provided*, That the members of the first Board appointed under this Act shall hold office for the following terms: One member for one year, one member for two years, and one member for three years: *Provided, further*, That upon the approval of this amendatory act, new chairman and members of the board shall hold office for a term of three years and may be reappoint but only once a term of three years: *Provided, furthermore*, That the chairman and members of the present board shall continue to serve until the unexpired portion of their terms and may be reappointed but only once for a term of three years: *Provided, furthermore*, That the member serving the last year of his term shall automatically come chairman of the board *and* *Provided, finally*, That in case there are two or more members serving the last year of their terms in the board, the most senior of them shall automatically become the chairman.

"Any vacancy occurring within the term of a member shall be filled for the unexpired portion of the term only. Each member of the Board shall qualify by taking the proper oath of office prior to entering upon the performance of his or her duties."

SEC. 4. Section seven of Republic Act Numbered Eight mired seventy-seven is hereby amended to read as follows:

"SEC. 7. *Compensation of the Board Members.*—The members of the Board shall each receive as compensation a fee not exceeding ten pesos *per capita* of the candidates examined: *Provided*, That the said compensation shall in no case exceed eighteen thousand pesos yearly."

SEC. 5. Section thirteen of Republic Act Numbered Eight hundred seventy-seven is hereby amended to read as follows:

"SEC. 13. *Clinical and public health nursing facilities.*—No hospital, school, college or university shall be permitted to operate a school, college or institute of nursing unless such hospital, school, college or university shall establish and operate a base hospital with at least one hundred authorized beds to be available for occupancy by medical, (including communicable) surgical, obstetric and pediatric patients: *Provided*, That such schools, colleges or universities actually operating a duly recognized school of nursing may be allowed to establish and operate home hospital of at least fifty authorized beds and to affiliate with other hospitals for the remaining balance necessary to fulfill the one hundred authorized beds base hospital requirement for training purposes: *Provided, further*, That no hospital in such arrangement shall have less than one hundred beds at its disposal and *Provided, finally*, That not later than January 1, 1971, all schools, colleges, universities must have already established such capital of at least one hundred authorized beds as prescribed herein.

"Schools, Colleges or universities offering courses to on the undergraduate and/or graduate levels should also make necessary

provisions for required experience of students in nursing school hospitals and public health nursing agencies."

SEC. 6. Section fourteen of Republic Act Numbered Eight hundred seventy-seven is hereby amended to read as follows:

"SEC. 14. *Qualifications of faculty members.*—The dean director or principal of the school, college or institute of nursing should be a qualified nurse with the following minimum qualifications:

- a. Must be a holder of a master's degree in nursing: Provided, that nothing in this act shall be construed to disqualify those who have already been considered qualified and actually occupying the position of dean, director or principal, before the effectivity of this amendatory Act: and provided, however, that deans, directors or principal of school, college or institute of nursing occupying such positions before the effectivity of this amendatory Act shall, from January 1, 1967, be given a period of five years within which to qualify under the provisions of this Act;
- b. Must have had at least three years of acceptable experience in teaching and supervision in schools, colleges or institute of nursing;
- c. Must be a registered nurse; and
- d. Must be a Filipino citizen.

The instructors in clinical nursing courses should be registered nurses with the following minimum qualifications:

- a. Must be holders of the bachelor's degree in nursing;
- b. Must have majored in the particular subject or subjects which they teach and holders of certificate in teaching from an authorized school, college or university in addition to the degree in nursing;
- c. Must have had at least a year of acceptable hospital nursing experience."

The instructor in public health nursing should be a nurse with the following minimum qualifications.

- a. Must be a holder of a bachelor's degree in nursing, and a major in public health nursing, and a holder of a certificate in teaching public health nursing from an authorized school, college or university in addition to the degree in nursing;
- b. Must have had at least one year of acceptable experience in public health nursing; and
- c. Must be a registered nurse."

SEC. 7. Section fifteen of Republic Act Numbered Eight hundred seventy-seven is hereby amended to read as follows:

"SEC. 15. *General entrance requirements to schools, colleges and universities of nursing.*—Applicants desiring to enter any hospital school, college or institute of nursing must show evidence of completion of at least one year of college work in a recognized educational institution. Areas of study should include courses in the physical, biological, social