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AB-2471 Professions and vocations: public health nurses. (2023-2024)

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Assembly Bill No. 2471

CHAPTER 717

An act to amend Section 2816 of the Business and Professions Code, relating to professions and vocations.

[Approved by Governor September 27, 2024. Filed with Secretary of State September 27, 2024.]

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 2471, Jim Patterson. Professions and vocations: public health nurses.

Existing law requires the payment of a nonrefundable fee to be paid by a registered nurse for an evaluation of their qualifications to use the title of "public health nurse." Existing law additionally specifies a fee for renewal of the certification to practice as a public health nurse and imposes a penalty fee for failure to renew a certificate to practice as a public health nurse within the prescribed time of 50% of the renewal fee in effect on the date of renewal of the certificate, as specified.

This bill would delete those provisions relating to renewal of a certificate to practice as a public health nurse. The bill would also state that a public health nurse certificate is not subject to renewal.

This bill would incorporate additional changes to Section 2816 of the Business and Professions Code proposed by SB 1526 to be operative only if this bill and SB 1526 are enacted and this bill is enacted last.

Vote: majority Appropriation: no Fiscal Committee: yes Local Program: no

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. Section 2816 of the Business and Professions Code is amended to read:

2816. (a) The nonrefundable fee to be paid by a registered nurse for an evaluation of their qualifications to use the title "public health nurse" shall not be less than three hundred dollars (\$300) or more than one thousand dollars (\$1,000). All fees payable under this section shall be collected by and paid to the Board of Registered Nursing Fund. It is the intention of the Legislature that the costs of carrying out the purposes of this article shall be covered by the revenue collected pursuant to this section. The board shall refund any registered nurse who paid more than three hundred dollars (\$300) for an evaluation of their qualifications to use the title "public health nurse" between April 5, 2018, and December 31, 2018.

(b) A public health nurse certificate is not subject to renewal.

SEC. 1.5. Section 2816 of the Business and Professions Code is amended to read:

2816. (a) The nonrefundable fee to be paid by a registered nurse for an evaluation of their qualifications to use the title "public health nurse" shall not be more than one thousand dollars (\$1,000). All fees payable under this section shall be collected by and

paid to the Board of Registered Nursing Fund. It is the intention of the Legislature that the costs of carrying out the purposes of this article shall be covered by the revenue collected pursuant to this section. The board shall refund any registered nurse who paid more than three hundred dollars (\$300) for an evaluation of their qualifications to use the title "public health nurse" between April 5, 2018, and December 31, 2018.

(b) A public health nurse certificate is not subject to renewal.

SEC. 2. Section 1.5 of this bill incorporates amendments to Section 2816 of the Business and Professions Code proposed by both this bill and Senate Bill 1526. That section of this bill shall only become operative if (1) both bills are enacted and become effective on or before January 1, 2025, (2) each bill amends Section 2816 of the Business and Professions Code, and (3) this bill is enacted after Senate Bill 1526, in which case Section 1 of this bill shall not become operative.