

# HOUSE BILL No. 1278

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## DIGEST OF INTRODUCED BILL

**Citations Affected:** IC 25-23-1-20.1.

**Synopsis:** Nursing education programs. Allows an institution that has been operating an eligible nursing program for at least five years to increase the enrollment in any eligible nursing program at any rate the institution considers appropriate.

**Effective:** July 1, 2026.

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**Barrett**

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January 6, 2026, read first time and referred to Committee on Public Health.

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Second Regular Session of the 124th General Assembly (2026)

PRINTING CODE. Amendments: Whenever an existing statute (or a section of the Indiana Constitution) is being amended, the text of the existing provision will appear in this style type, additions will appear in **this style type**, and deletions will appear in ~~this style type~~.

Additions: Whenever a new statutory provision is being enacted (or a new constitutional provision adopted), the text of the new provision will appear in **this style type**. Also, the word **NEW** will appear in that style type in the introductory clause of each SECTION that adds a new provision to the Indiana Code or the Indiana Constitution.

Conflict reconciliation: Text in a statute in *this style type* or ~~this style type~~ reconciles conflicts between statutes enacted by the 2025 Regular Session of the General Assembly.

## HOUSE BILL No. 1278

A BILL FOR AN ACT to amend the Indiana Code concerning professions and occupations.

*Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Indiana:*

- 1       SECTION 1. IC 25-23-1-20.1, AS AMENDED BY P.L.148-2023,  
2       SECTION 16, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
3       JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 20.1. (a) As used in this section, "eligible  
4       ~~associate or bachelor's degree registered~~ nursing program" means **an a**  
5       **practical nursing program or an** associate or bachelor's degree  
6       registered nursing program that:  
7               (1) is accredited by the board; and  
8               (2) has an annual rate of successful completion of the National  
9       Council Licensure Examination (NCLEX) score of at least eighty  
10       percent (80%).  
11       (b) As used in this section, "nursing program" means any of the  
12       following:  
13               (1) A licensed practical nursing program.  
14               (2) An associate degree nursing program.  
15               (3) A diploma nursing program.  
16               (4) A baccalaureate degree nursing program.  
17       (c) ~~An eligible associate degree or bachelor's degree registered~~



1 nursing program that has been operating for at least five (5) years may  
2 increase enrollment in the program at any rate the program considers  
3 appropriate. **An institution that has been operating an eligible**  
4 **nursing program for at least five (5) years may increase the**  
5 **enrollment in any eligible nursing program at any rate the**  
6 **institution considers appropriate.**

7 (d) A nursing program that:

8 (1) is operated by a postsecondary educational institution, as  
9 defined in IC 21-7-13-6(a)(1);

10 (2) was accredited by the board on a date after June 30, 2020; and

11 (3) has been operating for at least one (1) year;

12 may increase its enrollment rate by not more than one hundred percent  
13 (100%).

