



Rep. Camille Y. Lilly

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10300HB5475ham001

LRB103 38479 RJT 72489 a

1 AMENDMENT TO HOUSE BILL 5475

2 AMENDMENT NO. _____. Amend House Bill 5475 by replacing
3 everything after the enacting clause with the following:

4 "Section 5. Purpose. The purpose of this amendatory Act of
5 the 103rd General Assembly is to address health care needs
6 within the Department of Corrections by providing nursing
7 scholarship assistance to eligible students in the State,
8 subject to appropriation, and shall require a public service
9 commitment agreement to work within the Department of
10 Corrections for a specified duration. The Program shall be
11 administered by the Illinois Student Assistance Commission and
12 with the guidance and assistance of the Department.

13 Section 10. The Higher Education Student Assistance Act is
14 amended by adding Section 65.125 as follows:

15 (110 ILCS 947/65.125 new)

1 Sec. 65.125. Nursing in correctional facilities
2 scholarship program.

3 (a) In this Section:

4 "Eligible institution" means a public community college, a
5 private junior college, a hospital-based diploma in nursing
6 program, or a public or private college or university with a
7 pre-licensure nursing education program located in this State
8 that has received approval by the Department of Financial and
9 Professional Regulation for an associate degree in nursing
10 program, an associate degree in applied sciences in nursing
11 program, a hospital-based diploma in nursing program, a
12 baccalaureate degree in nursing program, a graduate degree in
13 nursing program, or a certificate in a practical nursing
14 program approved by the Board of Higher Education or any
15 successor agency with similar authority. An eligible
16 institution must maintain compliance with all applicable State
17 and federal laws. An eligible institution is not necessarily
18 eligible for other programs administered by the Commission and
19 is not required to meet the definition of institution of
20 higher learning, qualified institution, or institution as
21 defined in Section 10 of this Act. The Commission may
22 establish by rule additional requirements for an eligible
23 institution.

24 "Department" means the Department of Corrections.

25 (b) Subject to appropriation, the Commission shall award a
26 nursing in correctional facilities scholarship to each

1 qualified applicant. To determine the maximum annual
2 scholarship amount available to a recipient enrolled full
3 time, the Commission shall consider tuition and fee charges
4 and projected living expenses at community colleges and
5 universities statewide under the following criteria:

6 (1) To determine the maximum scholarship amount for a
7 recipient pursuing a certificate in practical nursing at
8 any eligible institution, a hospital-based diploma in
9 nursing, or an associates degree or diploma in nursing
10 from an community college, the Commission shall add the
11 weighted tuition and fees charged by community colleges in
12 this State to the uniform living allowance reported in the
13 weighted Monetary Award Program budget.

14 (2) To determine the maximum scholarship amount for a
15 recipient pursuing an associates, baccalaureate, or
16 graduate degree in nursing at a private 2-year college or
17 a public or private 4-year eligible institution in this
18 State, the Commission shall add the weighted tuition and
19 fees charged by institutions of higher learning to the
20 uniform living allowance reported in the weighted Monetary
21 Award Program budget.

22 The total amount of scholarship assistance awarded by the
23 Commission under this Section to an eligible applicant in any
24 given fiscal year, when added to other financial assistance
25 awarded to that individual for that year, may not exceed the
26 cost of attendance at the institution at which the student is

1 enrolled. If the amount of financial assistance to be awarded
2 to a qualified student exceeds the cost of attendance at the
3 institution at which the student is enrolled, the scholarship
4 awarded under this Section shall be reduced by an amount equal
5 to the amount by which the combined financial assistance
6 available to the student exceeds the cost of attendance.

7 (c) The Commission shall, on an annual basis, receive and
8 consider applications for scholarship assistance under the
9 program. An applicant is eligible for a scholarship under the
10 program if the Commission finds that the applicant meets the
11 following criteria:

12 (1) Is a resident of Illinois.

13 (2) Is enrolled in an eligible institution in the
14 State on at least a part-time basis.

15 (3) Expressed a commitment to work as a nurse in the
16 Department of Corrections for a minimum of 3 years.

17 (4) Is not receiving financial assistance during the
18 same academic year through a scholarship program under the
19 Nursing Education Scholarship Law.

20 When selecting scholarship recipients from among eligible
21 applicants, the Commission shall give preference first to
22 previous recipients of a scholarship under the program,
23 provided that the recipient continues to meet the eligibility
24 requirements set forth in this Section and maintains
25 satisfactory academic progress as determined by the
26 institution of higher education at which the recipient is

1 enrolled. In considering new recipients, the Commission shall
2 prioritize funding for students with financial need, as
3 determined by the Commission. In considering new recipients,
4 the Commission shall prioritize funding for students with
5 financial need, as determined by the Commission

6 (d) Prior to receiving scholarship assistance for an
7 academic year, each recipient of a scholarship awarded under
8 the program must sign an agreement pledging that, within the
9 one-year period following the termination of the academic
10 program for which the recipient was awarded a scholarship, the
11 recipient shall:

12 (1) begin working as a nurse in the Department for a
13 period of not less than 3 years; and

14 (2) upon request of the Commission and subject to
15 confirmation with the Department, provide the Commission
16 with evidence that the recipient is fulfilling or has
17 fulfilled the terms of the public service agreement
18 required under this subsection (d).

19 (e) A recipient may receive scholarship assistance under
20 the program for the equivalent of 8 semesters or 16 quarters of
21 full-time enrollment.

22 (f) All applications for a scholarship under the program
23 shall be made to the Commission in a form and manner prescribed
24 by the Commission. An applicant shall also submit any
25 supporting documents deemed necessary by the Commission at the
26 time of application.

1 (g) All scholarship funds distributed under the program
2 shall be paid to the eligible institution on behalf of the
3 scholarship recipient.

4 (h) If a recipient of a scholarship awarded under this
5 Section fails to fulfill the service agreement required under
6 the program, the Commission shall require the recipient to
7 repay the amount of the scholarship or scholarships received,
8 prorated according to the fraction of the service agreement
9 not completed, plus interest at a rate of 5% and, if
10 applicable, reasonable collection fees. Payments received by
11 the Commission under this Section shall be remitted to the
12 State Comptroller for deposit into the General Revenue Fund.

13 (i) A recipient of a scholarship awarded by the Commission
14 under the program shall not be in violation of the agreement
15 entered into pursuant to this Article if the recipient is (i)
16 serving as a member of the Armed Services or Reserve Forces of
17 the United States, (ii) a person with a temporary total
18 disability, as established by a sworn affidavit of a qualified
19 physician, (iii) taking additional courses, on at least a
20 half-time basis, related to nursing, or (iv) extenuating and
21 specific circumstances in which the recipient is unable to
22 achieve full-time employment as a nurse with the Department
23 and is able to provide evidence of that fact, subject to review
24 by the Commission. Any extension of the period during which
25 the service requirement must be fulfilled shall be subject to
26 limitations of duration established by the Commission and with

1 the guidance and assistance of the Department.

2 (j) In providing guidance and assistance to the
3 Commission, the Department may collaborate with accredited
4 State nursing schools to facilitate the scholarship program.
5 Eligible institutions are encouraged to support and promote
6 the program among their nursing students.

7 (k) The Department, in consultation with the Commission,
8 shall provide an annual report on the program's effectiveness,
9 including the number of recipients, their service periods, and
10 any challenges faced.

11 (l) The funding for the program shall be subject to
12 appropriation. Additional contributions from private entities,
13 philanthropic organizations, or federal grants may supplement
14 the scholarship.

15 (m) The Commission shall administer the grant program
16 established by this Section and shall make all necessary and
17 proper rules not inconsistent with this Section for its
18 effective implementation with the guidance and assistance of
19 the Department.

20 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect July 1,
21 2025.".