

## 104TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY State of Illinois 2025 and 2026 SB0067

Introduced 1/13/2025, by Sen. Robert Peters

## SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

225 ILCS 510/14.1

Amends the Nurse Agency Licensing Act. Provides that any person who violates any provision of the Act or the rules adopted under the Act shall be subject to a civil penalty of up to \$10,000 per occurrence payable to the Department of Labor for the purpose of enforcing the Act (rather than a licensee or applicant who violates any provision of the Act or the rules adopted under the Act shall be subject to a civil penalty of \$10,000 per occurrence).

LRB104 06345 AAS 16381 b

1 AN ACT concerning regulation.

## Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois, represented in the General Assembly:

- Section 5. The Nurse Agency Licensing Act is amended by changing Section 14.1 as follows:
- 6 (225 ILCS 510/14.1)
- 7 Sec. 14.1. Investigations; orders; civil penalties.
- 8 The Department may at any time, and shall upon 9 receiving a complaint from any interested person, investigate any person licensed or applying for a license under this Act 10 suspected of violating any provision of any Section except 11 Section 14.3. The Department shall investigate any person who 12 13 operates or advertises a nurse agency without being licensed 14 under this Act. The Department shall establish a system of reporting complaints against a health care staffing agency. 15 16 The Department shall publish on its website how an interested party may submit a complaint of a violation of this Act to the 17 Department. Complaints may be made by an interested party. 18 19 Complaints against a nurse agency shall be investigated by the Department of Labor. The investigations shall take into 20 21 consideration the responsibility of health care facilities 22 under Section 12 for supervising nurse agency employees assigned or referred to the facilities. For purposes of this 23

- 1 Section, "interested party" means a health care facility,
- 2 nurse staffing agency, or an employee of a health care
- 3 facility or nurse staffing agency.
- 4 The Director or his or her authorized representative may
- 5 examine the premises of any nurse agency, may compel by
- 6 subpoena, for examination or inspection, the attendance and
- 7 testimony of witnesses and the production of books, payrolls,
- 8 records, papers and other evidence in any investigation or
- 9 hearing, and may administer oaths or affirmations to
- 10 witnesses.
- 11 (b) After appropriate notice and hearing, and if supported
- 12 by the evidence, the Department may issue and cause to be
- 13 served on any person an order to cease and desist from
- 14 violation of this Act and to take any further action that is
- 15 reasonable to eliminate the effect of the violation of any
- 16 Section except Section 14.3.
- Whenever it appears that any person has violated a valid
- 18 order of the Department issued under this Act, the Director
- 19 may commence an action and obtain from the court an order
- 20 directing the person to obey the order of the Department or be
- subject to punishment for contempt of court.
- The Department may petition the court for an order
- 23 enjoining any violation of any Section of this Act except
- 24 Section 14.3.
- 25 (c) Any person <del>licensee or applicant</del> who violates any
- 26 provision of this Act or the rules adopted under this Act shall

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be subject to a civil penalty of up to \$10,000 per occurrence 1 2 payable to the Department for the purpose of enforcing this 3 Act. Civil penalties may be assessed by the Department in an administrative action and may, if necessary, be recovered in a 5 civil action brought by the Director through the Attorney General of the State of Illinois or the State's attorney of any 6 7 county in which the violation occurred. The court may order 8 that the civil penalties assessed for violation of this Act, 9 together with any costs or attorney's fees arising out of the 10 action to collect the penalties, be paid to the Department. 11 The fact that the violation has ceased does not excuse any 12 person from liability for civil penalties arising from the 13 violation.

(d) Any nurse staffing agency that has been found not to have paid an employee 100% of the hourly wage rate identified in the contract between such nurse staffing agency and health care facility shall be liable to the employee for the actual amount of the underpayment, plus damages of 5% of the amount of the underpayment.

(Source: P.A. 102-946, eff. 7-1-22.) 20