

## Overview

The following floor amendment would modify language pertaining to the allocation of the funds to community colleges and reporting of data.

## Required Action

On page III-49 of the agency's bill pattern, amend Rider 40:

Professional Nursing Shortage Reduction Program. The funds appropriated under Strategy D.1.12 for the Professional Nursing Shortage Reduction Program (§ 61.9621-61.9628, Education Code) are trusteeed to the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board to achieve the following outcomes: 1) increasing the number of graduates from professional nursing programs, 2) increasing the percentage of students in professional nursing programs that graduate within a reasonable time as determined by the board, and 3) increasing the number of graduates from master's and doctoral programs in nursing that join the faculty of a professional nursing program. Funds shall only be used to: 1) create additional nurse faculty positions, 2) provide temporary salary supplements for professional nursing faculty, and 3) engage qualified preceptors to expand faculty capacity. "Professional nursing program" has the meaning assigned by § 61.9621, Education Code. The funds appropriated shall be distributed in an equitable manner to institutions based on increases in numbers of nursing students graduating. Out of funds appropriated above in Strategy D.1.12, the Coordinating Board shall allocate ~~up to \$1,500,000~~ 2,250,000 in each year of the biennium to community colleges. If the board is unable to allocate the balance of the funds to general academic and health-related institutions, it may allocate any unused funds to community colleges.

An institution is eligible to receive funds appropriated for fiscal year 2008 only if it commits for fiscal year 2008 to spend funds on its professional nursing program at least equal to the funds spent in fiscal year 2007 and for funds appropriated for fiscal year 2009 only if it commits for FY 2009 to spend funds equal at least to the funds spent in fiscal year 2008. Funds received under Strategy D.1.12 shall not be included in these calculations.