

1-1 By: Nelson S.B. No. 138  
1-2 (In the Senate - Filed December 5, 2006; January 29, 2007,  
1-3 read first time and referred to Committee on Health and Human  
1-4 Services; February 13, 2007, reported adversely, with favorable  
1-5 Committee Substitute by the following vote: Yeas 9, Nays 0;  
1-6 February 13, 2007, sent to printer.)

1-7 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR S.B. No. 138 By: Nelson

1-8 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
1-9 AN ACT

1-10 relating to promoting the retention and graduation of students  
1-11 enrolled in professional nursing programs.

1-12 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

1-13 SECTION 1. Subchapter C, Chapter 61, Education Code, is  
1-14 amended by adding Section 61.0901 to read as follows:

1-15 Sec. 61.0901. INCENTIVES TO PROMOTE RETENTION AND  
1-16 GRADUATION OF NURSING STUDENTS. (a) In this section,  
1-17 "professional nursing program" has the meaning assigned by Section  
1-18 61.9621.

1-19 (b) The board shall consider and develop methods to promote  
1-20 the retention and graduation of students enrolled in a professional  
1-21 nursing program and shall adopt rules to implement those methods  
1-22 the board considers feasible, including recommendations on  
1-23 financial aid.

1-24 (c) The board by rule shall establish a program to recognize  
1-25 a professional nursing program that achieves a graduation rate of  
1-26 85 percent or more.

1-27 SECTION 2. Not later than December 1, 2007, the Texas Higher  
1-28 Education Coordinating Board shall adopt the rules required by  
1-29 Subsection (c), Section 61.0901, Education Code, as added by this  
1-30 Act.

1-31 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2007.

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