S.B. No. 1856

AN ACT

relating to certain vocational nursing students providing services during a declared state of disaster.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1.  Chapter 242, Health and Safety Code, is amended by adding Subchapter T to read as follows:

SUBCHAPTER T. SERVICES PROVIDED BY CERTAIN VOCATIONAL NURSING STUDENTS

Sec. 242.951.  DEFINITION. In this subchapter, "disaster" has the meaning assigned by Section 418.004, Government Code.

Sec. 242.952.  APPLICABILITY. This subchapter applies only to a student who is:

(1)  enrolled in an accredited school or program that is preparing the student for licensure as a licensed vocational nurse; and

(2)  participating in a clinical program at a facility licensed under this chapter.

Sec. 242.953.  SERVICES PROVIDED BY CERTAIN VOCATIONAL NURSING STUDENTS. (a) Notwithstanding any other law, services that are provided by a student to whom this subchapter applies in a facility licensed under this chapter and authorized by a contract or other arrangement with the facility are allowed at all times in this state, including during a declared state of disaster.

(b)  A facility licensed under this chapter may:

(1)  require a student to comply with the facility's policies regarding health screenings or the use of personal protective equipment; and

(2)  condition the student's provision of services on compliance with the facility's policies described by Subdivision (1).

SECTION 2.  This Act takes effect September 1, 2021.

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I hereby certify that S.B. No. 1856 passed the Senate on April 26, 2021, by the following vote: Yeas 29, Nays 2; and that the Senate concurred in House amendment on May 29, 2021, by the following vote: Yeas 29, Nays 2.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_    Secretary of the Senate

I hereby certify that S.B. No. 1856 passed the House, with amendment, on May 26, 2021, by the following vote: Yeas 147, Nays 0, two present not voting.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_    Chief Clerk of the House

Approved:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_             Date\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_           Governor