

Assembly Bill No. 422

CHAPTER 702

An act to repeal and add Article 9 (commencing with Section 89280) of Chapter 2 of Part 55 of Division 8 of Title 3 of the Education Code, relating to nursing degrees.

[Approved by Governor October 12, 2017. Filed with
Secretary of State October 12, 2017.]

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 422, Arambula. California State University: Doctor of Nursing Practice Degree Program.

Existing law, until July 1, 2018, establishes the Doctor of Nursing Practice Degree Pilot Program, under which the California State University is authorized to establish a Doctor of Nursing Practice degree pilot program at 3 campuses to award Doctor of Nursing Practice degrees, subject to specified program and enrollment requirements.

This bill would repeal those provisions and would authorize the California State University to establish Doctor of Nursing Practice degree programs that offer Doctor of Nursing Practice degrees, subject to specified program and enrollment requirements. The bill would require the California State University to provide initial funding from within existing budgets, as specified, and would express the Legislature's intent that the California State University seek private donations or other nonstate funds to fund startup costs for the programs.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

SECTION 1. Article 9 (commencing with Section 89280) of Chapter 2 of Part 55 of Division 8 of Title 3 of the Education Code is repealed.

SEC. 2. Article 9 (commencing with Section 89280) is added to Chapter 2 of Part 55 of Division 8 of Title 3 of the Education Code, to read:

Article 9. Doctor of Nursing Practice Degree Program

89280. (a) Notwithstanding Section 66010.4, in order to meet specific nursing education needs in California, the California State University may establish Doctor of Nursing Practice degree programs.

(b) The Doctor of Nursing Practice degree offered by the California State University shall be distinguished from the doctor of philosophy degrees in nursing offered at, or in conjunction with, the University of California.

(c) Doctor of Nursing Practice degree programs offered by the California State University shall focus on the preparation of nursing faculty to teach in postsecondary nursing education programs and may also train nurses for advanced nursing practice or nurse leadership, or both.

(d) Doctor of Nursing Practice degree programs established by the California State University are not exempt from any required review and approval processes.

(e) Enrollments in Doctor of Nursing Practice programs shall not alter the California State University's ratio of graduate instruction to total enrollment, and shall not diminish enrollment growth in university undergraduate programs.

(f) The California State University shall provide any initial funding needed for Doctor of Nursing Practice programs authorized by this article from within existing budgets for academic programs support, without diminishing the quality of program support offered to California State University undergraduate programs. It is the intent of the Legislature that the California State University seek private donations or other nonstate funds to fund startup costs for Doctor of Nursing Practice degree programs.

89281. The California State University shall permit students enrolled in the Doctor of Nursing Practice Degree Pilot Program established pursuant to this article, as it read on December 31, 2017, to complete their coursework on and after January 1, 2018.