

Nurse Aide Legislation Updates

During the 2009 Session the Colorado Nurse Aide Practice Act went to the State Legislature for Sunset Review. The following is a list of highlights of the amendments made to the Nurse Aide Practice Act: SB 09-138 can be accessed at the General Assembly web site: <http://www.leg.state.co.us/>

- The composition of the Nurse Aide Advisory Committee was changed to allow either an RN or an LPN who supervises Nurse Aides to be appointed to the Committee by the Board.
- The restriction was removed specifying the public members on the Nurse Aide Advisory Committee had to be a “consumer of nurse aide health care services” and a “family member of someone who is a consumer of nurse aide health care services.” The two public members on the Nurse Aide Advisory Committee can be anyone who does not possess a health care license or certification.
- Nurse Aide Advisory Committee members are now authorized to receive \$50 per diem for each meeting they attend. This aligns with similar designations for Board members as outlined in the Nurse Practice Act.
- The language creating and pertaining to Medication Aide Authority for Nurse Aides was repealed. The requirements for Medication Aide Authority for Nurse Aides will be specified in amendments to the Chapter XIX Board Rules and will be implemented by January 1, 2011. Check back to the web site for further updates on Medication Aide Authority for Nurse Aides.
- The Board is authorized to require Nurse Aide training programs provide up to 25% more training hours than the federal requirement of 75 hours. This is discretionary and no decision has yet been made by the Board as to whether hours should be increased.
- The waiting period for Nurse Aides who have been denied certification or had their certification surrendered or revoked has been extended to two years after the date of denial/revocation/surrender before they are permitted to re-apply for certification.
- The Nurse Aide Advisory Committee (NAAC) may now discipline a CNA if the nurse aide fails to respond in a timely and materially factual manner to a complaint. The NAAC may also discipline a CNA for failure to report a criminal conviction to the NAAC within 45 days after the conviction.