

**Senate Bill No. 1393**

**CHAPTER 175**

An act to amend Sections 66055.8 and 78261.3 of the Education Code, relating to nursing programs.

[Approved by Governor July 22, 2008. Filed with  
Secretary of State July 22, 2008.]

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 1393, Scott. Nursing programs.

(1) Existing law provides that a student of a registered nursing program at a campus of the California State University or California Community Colleges, who holds a baccalaureate degree from a regionally accredited institution, may not be required to complete general education requirements. Instead, the student may only be required to complete coursework that is necessary for licensing as a registered nurse.

This bill would specifically prohibit a campus of the California State University or California Community Colleges from requiring a student of a registered nursing program with a baccalaureate degree from a regionally accredited institution to complete any coursework other than that which is unique and exclusively required to earn a nursing degree from that institution.

(2) Existing law prohibits a community college district from excluding an applicant to a registered nursing program on the sole basis that the applicant is not a resident of that district or has not completed prerequisite courses in that district.

This bill would instead specify that a district is prohibited from either excluding an applicant on the basis that the applicant is not a district resident or has not completed prerequisite courses in that district, or from implementing policies, procedures, and systems, including, but not limited to, priority registration systems, that have the effect of excluding an applicant or student who is not a resident of that district from a registered nursing program of that district.

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

SECTION 1. Section 66055.8 of the Education Code is amended to read:  
66055.8. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, a campus of the California State University or the California Community Colleges that operates a registered nursing program shall not require a student who has been admitted to that registered nursing program and who has already earned a baccalaureate or higher degree from a regionally accredited institution of higher education to undertake any coursework other than the coursework

that is unique and exclusively required to earn a nursing degree from that institution.

SEC. 2. Section 78261.3 of the Education Code is amended to read:

78261.3. Notwithstanding any other provision of law:

(a) Any community college district, irrespective of whether it participates in the program established by this article, may use any diagnostic assessment tool that is commonly used in registered nursing programs and is approved by the chancellor.

(b) If, after using an approved diagnostic assessment tool, a community college registered nursing program determines that the number of applicants to that program exceeds its capacity, the program is authorized to use additional multicriteria screening measures. This subdivision does not prohibit or prevent a community college registered nursing program from using an approved diagnostic assessment tool before or during a multicriteria screening process.

(c) A community college district may not do either of the following:

(1) Exclude an applicant to a registered nursing program on the basis that the applicant is not a resident of that district or has not completed prerequisite courses in that district.

(2) Implement policies, procedures, and systems, including, but not limited to, priority registration systems, that have the effect of excluding an applicant or student who is not a resident of that district from a registered nursing program of that district.