

HB 1990 -- LICENSURE OF NURSES

SPONSOR: Wells

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "do pass by consent" by the Special Committee on Professional Registration and Licensing by a vote of 12 to 0.

This bill exempts a person from licensure as a nurse in Missouri if he or she holds an out-of-state license and is transporting a patient into, out of, or through the state and the transport does not exceed 48 hours.

The bill also requires an employer of nurses to have a system in place for verifying that the applicant for a position as a registered, licensed practical, or advanced practice registered nurse has a current valid license and to verify the licensure status at the time of the nurse's license renewal.

FISCAL NOTE: No impact on state funds in FY 2011, FY 2012, and FY 2013.

PROPONENTS: Supporters say that there is nothing that currently requires an employer of nurses to check their licenses. The bill will decrease the number of unlicensed nurses who gain employment and the number of nurses working with restrictions on their licenses because of disciplinary reasons.

Testifying for the bill were Representative Wells; and Missouri State Board of Nursing, Department of Insurance, Financial Institutions and Professional Registration.

OPPONENTS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.