CHAPTER 1620

An act to add Section 2179.5 to the Business and Professions Code, and to add Part 7 (commencing with Section 1190) to Division 1 of the Health and Safety Code, relating to health care training, and making an appropriation therefor.

[Approved by Governor September 29, 1984. Filed with Secretary of State September 30, 1984.]

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL’S DIGEST

AB 2614, Moorhead. Health care training: geriatric programs.

(1) Under existing law, the Division of Licensing of the Board of Medical Quality Assurance oversees physician licensing examinations.

This bill would express the Legislature’s intent that the Division of Licensing strongly urge those organizations responsible for the development of physician licensing examinations to include within those examinations increased emphasis on medical problems of the elderly.

The bill would require the Board of Medical Quality Assurance to report its initial findings regarding that intent to the Legislature by January 1, 1986, and to submit a subsequent report on or before January 1, 1987.

(2) Under existing law, the State Department of Health Services administers various grant programs related to health services.

This bill would establish a program whereby the Regents of the University of California would provide grants to academic geriatric resource programs, as specified, to eligible campuses within the University of California system.

This bill would require the regents to submit an annual progress report regarding the grant program, as specified, to the Legislature on January 1 of each year, commencing January 1, 1986.

This bill would specify that none of its provisions shall be applicable to the University of California unless the regents, by resolution, make the provision applicable.

This bill would direct the State Department of Health Services to seek any Medicaid waivers necessary to implement the provisions of this bill.

(3) This bill would express the intent of the Legislature to encourage the regents to monitor existing physician licensing requirements, and any additional requirements developed in response to item (1). The bill would also express the legislative intent that the regents review programs and offerings in the schools of medicine, as specified, and that they request the medical and health science schools of the University of California to consider the need
for additional emphasis on geriatrics in their curricula. The bill would request the regents to provide a status report on that need to the Governor and the Legislature on or before January 1, 1987.

(4) This bill would appropriate $1,000,000 to the Regents of the University of California for purposes of providing grants pursuant to the provisions of this bill, and would prohibit the regents from expending any of the funds until they have, by resolution, elected to administer the Academic Geriatric Research Program. This bill would also prohibit the regents from expending any of the funds to supplant state funds for costs for certain existing programs and activities.

Appropriation: yes.

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

SECTION 1. Section 2179.5 is added to the Business and Professions Code, to read:

2179.5. It is the intent of the Legislature that the Division of Licensing strongly urge those organizations responsible for the development of physician licensing examinations to include within those examinations increased emphasis on medical problems of the elderly.

SEC. 2. Part 7 (commencing with Section 1190) is added to Division 1 of the Health and Safety Code, to read:

PART 7. GERIATRIC PROGRAMS

CHAPTER 1. LEGISLATIVE FINDINGS AND INTENT

1190. (a) The Legislature finds that approximately 12.9 percent of all Californians will be over 65 years of age by the year 2000. As the number of elderly and the amount spent for their health care have increased, serious problems have arisen regarding the availability, quality, and appropriateness of the health services received by the elderly.

The Legislature also finds that there is a need to increase knowledge with respect to the major diseases and disabilities affecting older adults, and to improve the quality of long-term care available to chronically ill and functionally impaired persons.

The Legislature recognizes the vital role that physicians and registered nurses play in the delivery of health care to the elderly and chronically ill. The Legislature also recognizes the desirability of a multidisciplinary approach to meeting the needs of those persons.

(b) The Legislature further recognizes the leadership role taken by the University of California in addressing the needs of the elderly. It is the intent of the Legislature to further encourage the gerontological pursuits of the University of California.

1191. It is the purpose of the Legislature, in enacting this part, to
establish academic geriatric resource programs at the University of California medical or other health science campuses. A multidisciplinary approach shall be utilized in the development of these programs. The programs shall include, but not be limited to, one or more of the following elements:

(a) Preclinical, clinical, or postgraduate educational programs in geriatrics for health science students to instruct and train them in recognizing and responding to the needs and dynamics of the geriatric care of elderly patients.
(b) Provision of continuing education in geriatrics for health care providers and the general public.
(c) A teaching nursing home program to research nursing home health care practices and to instruct and train health science students about geriatric care.

1192. For purposes of this part, the following definitions apply:

(a) "Academic geriatric resource program" means a program which includes one of the elements specified in Section 1191.
(b) "Nursing home" means a licensed skilled nursing or licensed intermediate care facility, as defined by Section 1250.
(c) "Teaching nursing home" means a licensed skilled nursing or licensed intermediate care facility, as defined by Section 1250, which is owned or operated by, or affiliated with, a University of California or private university campus with a medical or health sciences center, for the purpose of providing training, patient care, research, and community service.

1193. The Regents of the University of California shall be the agency with the responsibility for making grants for the Academic Geriatric Resource Program.

1195. Commencing January 1, 1986, on January 1 of each year, the Regents of the University of California shall submit a progress report to the Legislature regarding the grant programs established pursuant to the provisions of this part. The report shall include, but not be limited to, all of the following elements:

(a) A description of the progress made in implementing the programs.
(b) The number of academic geriatric resource programs established.
(c) The characteristics of the programs.
(d) The costs of the programs.

1196. No provision of this part shall be applicable to the University of California unless the Regents of the University of California, by resolution, make that provision applicable.

1197. The State Department of Health Services shall seek any Medicaid waivers necessary to implement this part.

1198. (a) It is the intent of the Legislature that the Division of Licensing of the Board of Medical Quality Assurance strongly urge those organizations responsible for the development of physician licensing examinations to include within those examinations
increased emphasis on medical problems of the elderly.

(b) The Board of Medical Quality Assurance shall report to the Legislature its initial findings regarding the intent declared in subdivision (a) by January 1, 1986, and shall submit a subsequent report on or before January 1, 1987.

1199. (a) In addition to the other programs provided under this part, it is the intent of the Legislature to encourage the Regents of the University of California to monitor existing physician licensing requirements, and any additional requirements developed in response to Section 1198. It is also the intent of the Legislature that the regents review programs and offerings in the schools of medicine to ensure that graduates of those schools are adequately prepared to meet the licensing requirements in geriatric medicine and any other educational requirements in geriatric medicine deemed appropriate by the regents.

(b) It is the intent of the Legislature that the regents request the medical and other health science schools of the University of California to consider the need for additional emphasis on geriatrics in their curricula. The regents are hereby requested to provide a status report on this need to the Governor and the Legislature by January 1, 1987.

SEC. 3. (a) The sum of one million dollars ($1,000,000) is hereby appropriated from the General Fund to the Regents of the University of California for purposes of providing grants pursuant to Part 7 (commencing with Section 1190) of Division 1 of the Health and Safety Code, as added by Section 1 of this act.

(b) None of the funds appropriated pursuant to subdivision (a) shall be expended by the Regents of the University of California until the regents, by resolution, elect to administer the Academic Geriatric Resource Program.

(c) None of the funds appropriated pursuant to subdivision (a) shall be used to supplant state funds for salaries of personnel or other costs of gerontological programs or activities of the University of California that were already in existence and operating prior to final approval by the Regents of the University of California of the academic geriatric resource program, unless otherwise authorized by the Legislature.