

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2005**

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SENATE BILL 409

Short Title: Raise Standards for Nursing Students. (Public)

Sponsors: Senators Bingham; Apodaca, Berger of Rockingham, Blake, Brock, Brown, East, Forrester, Garwood, Hunt, Jacumin, Pittenger, Purcell, Smith, Stevens, Thomas, and Tillman.

Referred to: Education/Higher Education.

March 7, 2005

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT DIRECTING THE STATE BOARD OF COMMUNITY COLLEGES TO
2 ESTABLISH PREREQUISITES FOR ITS NURSING PROGRAMS.
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4 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

5 **SECTION 1.** The General Assembly finds that although demand for nurses
6 far exceeds the number of students entering the nursing profession, North Carolina
7 community colleges have long waiting lists for entry into nursing programs.
8 Furthermore, a significant number of students entering community college nursing
9 programs do not complete the programs. To ensure that there are adequate slots within
10 the community college system for the most committed and capable nursing students, the
11 General Assembly directs the State Board of Community Colleges to establish rigorous
12 prerequisite courses for entry into its nursing programs.

13 The State Board of Community Colleges shall report to the Joint Legislative
14 Education Oversight Committee prior to December 1, 2005, on its implementation of
15 this act.

16 **SECTION 2.** This act is effective when it becomes law.