



CHESTER J. CULVER  
GOVERNOR

**OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR**

PATTY JUDGE  
LT. GOVERNOR

February 23, 2010

The Honorable Michael Mauro  
Secretary of State  
State Capitol Building  
LOCAL

Dear Mr. Secretary:

I hereby transmit:

**Senate File 2149**, an Act relating to criminal history and abuse registry checks for employees of health care facilities and other health-related providers and requiring such checks for certified nurse aide training program students and providing a penalty.

The above Senate File is hereby approved this date.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Chester J. Culver".

Chester J. Culver  
Governor

CJC:bdj

cc: Secretary of the Senate  
Chief Clerk of the House





Senate File 2149

AN ACT

RELATING TO CRIMINAL HISTORY AND ABUSE REGISTRY CHECKS FOR EMPLOYEES OF HEALTH CARE FACILITIES AND OTHER HEALTH-RELATED PROVIDERS AND REQUIRING SUCH CHECKS FOR CERTIFIED NURSE AIDE TRAINING PROGRAM STUDENTS AND PROVIDING A PENALTY.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

Section 1. Section 135C.33, subsection 1, Code Supplement 2009, is amended to read as follows:

1. a. For the purposes of this section, the term "crime" does not include offenses under chapter 321 classified as a simple misdemeanor or equivalent simple misdemeanor offenses from another jurisdiction.

b. Prior to employment of a person in a facility, the facility shall request that the department of public safety perform a criminal history check and the department of human services perform child and dependent adult abuse record checks of the person in this state. A facility shall inform all

persons prior to employment regarding the performance of the record checks and shall obtain, from the persons, a signed acknowledgment of the receipt of the information. A facility shall include the following inquiry in an application for employment:

"Do you have a record of founded child or dependent adult abuse or have you ever been convicted of a crime other than a simple misdemeanor offense relating to motor vehicles and laws of the road under chapter 321 or equivalent provisions, in this state or any other state?"

Sec. 2. Section 135C.33, Code Supplement 2009, is amended by adding the following new subsection:

NEW SUBSECTION. 8. *a.* For the purposes of this subsection, unless the context otherwise requires:

(1) "*Certified nurse aide training program*" means a program approved in accordance with the rules for such programs adopted by the department of human services for the training of persons seeking to be a certified nurse aide for employment in any of the facilities or programs this section applies to or in a hospital, as defined in section 135B.1.

(2) "*Student*" means a person applying for, enrolled in, or returning to a certified nurse aide training program.

*b.* Prior to a student beginning or returning to a certified nurse aide training program, the program shall request that the department of public safety perform a criminal history check and the department of human services perform child and dependent adult abuse record checks, in this state, of the student. The program may access the single contact repository established pursuant to this section as necessary for the program to initiate the record checks.

*c.* If a student has a criminal record or a record of founded child or dependent adult abuse, the student shall not be involved in a clinical education component of the certified nurse aide training program involving children or dependent adults unless an evaluation has been performed by the department of human services. Upon request of the certified nurse aide training program, the department of human services shall perform an evaluation to determine whether the record warrants prohibition of the student's involvement in a clinical education component of the certified nurse aide training program involving children or dependent adults. The evaluation shall be performed in accordance with the criteria specified in subsection 3 and the department of human services shall

report the results of the evaluation to the certified nurse aide training program. The department of human services has final authority in determining whether prohibition of the student's involvement in the clinical education component is warranted.

d. (1) If a student is convicted of a crime or has a record of founded child or dependent adult abuse entered in the abuse registry after the record checks and any evaluation have been performed, the student shall inform the certified nurse aide training program of such information within forty-eight hours of the criminal conviction or entry of the record of founded child or dependent adult abuse. The program shall act to verify the information within forty-eight hours of notification. If the information is verified, the requirements of paragraph "c" shall be applied by the program to determine whether or not the student's involvement in a clinical education component may continue. The program may allow the student involvement to continue pending the performance of an evaluation by the department of human services. A student who is required by this subparagraph to inform the program of a conviction or entry of an abuse record and fails to do so within the required period commits a serious misdemeanor.

(2) If a program receives credible information, as determined by the program, that a student has been convicted of a crime or a record of founded child or dependent adult abuse has been entered in the abuse registry after the record checks and any evaluation have been performed, from a person other than the student and the student has not informed the program of such information within the period required under subparagraph (1), the program shall act to verify the credible information within forty-eight hours of receipt of the credible information. If the information is verified, the requirements of paragraph "c" shall be applied to determine whether or not the student's involvement in a clinical education component may continue.

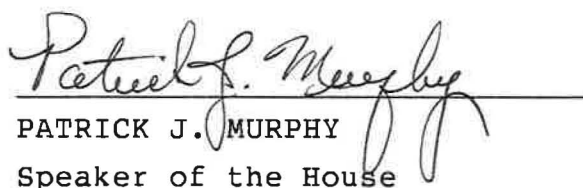
(3) The program may notify the county attorney for the county where the program is located of any violation or failure by a student to notify the program of a criminal conviction or entry of an abuse record within the period required under subparagraph (1).

e. If a certified nurse aide training program is conducted by a health care facility and a student of that program subsequently accepts and begins employment with the facility within thirty days of completing the program, the criminal history and abuse registry checks of the student performed

pursuant to this subsection shall be deemed to fulfill the requirements for such checks prior to employment pursuant to subsection 1.



JOHN P. KIBBIE  
President of the Senate



PATRICK J. MURPHY  
Speaker of the House

I hereby certify that this bill originated in the Senate and is known as Senate File 2149, Eighty-third General Assembly.



MICHAEL E. MARSHALL  
Secretary of the Senate

Approved Feb 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2010



CHESTER J. CULVER  
Governor