Representative Rodriguez, A. M. offered the following:

Amendment (with title amendment)

Remove lines 686-736 and insert:

Section 17. Effective upon this act becoming a law, subsections (8) and (10) of section 464.019, Florida Statutes, are amended, and paragraph (f) is added to subsection (11) of that section, to read:

464.019 Approval of nursing education programs.—

(8) RULEMAKING.—The board does not have rulemaking authority to administer this section, except that the board shall adopt rules that prescribe the format for submitting program applications under subsection (1) and annual reports...
under subsection (3), and to administer the documentation of the accreditation of nursing education programs under subsection (11). The board may adopt rules relating to the nursing curriculum, including rules relating to the uses and limitations of simulation technology, and rules relating to the criteria to qualify for an extension of time to meet the accreditation requirements under paragraph (11)(f). The board may not impose any condition or requirement on an educational institution submitting a program application, an approved program, or an accredited program, except as expressly provided in this section.

(10) IMPLEMENTATION STUDY.—The Florida Center for Nursing shall study the administration of this section and submit reports to the Governor, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives annually by January 30, through January 30, 2025. The annual reports shall address the previous academic year; provide data on the measures specified in paragraphs (a) and (b), as such data becomes available; and include an evaluation of such data for purposes of determining whether this section is increasing the availability of nursing education programs and the production of quality nurses. The department and each approved program or accredited program shall comply with requests for data from the Florida Center for Nursing.
(a) The Florida Center for Nursing shall evaluate program-specific data for each approved program and accredited program conducted in the state, including, but not limited to:

1. The number of programs and student slots available.
2. The number of student applications submitted, the number of qualified applicants, and the number of students accepted.
3. The number of program graduates.
4. Program retention rates of students tracked from program entry to graduation.
5. Graduate passage rates on the National Council of State Boards of Nursing Licensing Examination.
6. The number of graduates who become employed as practical or professional nurses in the state.

(b) The Florida Center for Nursing shall evaluate the board's implementation of the:

1. Program application approval process, including, but not limited to, the number of program applications submitted under subsection (1), the number of program applications approved and denied by the board under subsection (2), the number of denials of program applications reviewed under chapter 120, and a description of the outcomes of those reviews.
2. Accountability processes, including, but not limited to, the number of programs on probationary status, the number of approved programs for which the program director is required to
appear before the board under subsection (5), the number of approved programs terminated by the board, the number of terminations reviewed under chapter 120, and a description of the outcomes of those reviews.

(c) The Florida Center for Nursing shall complete an annual assessment of compliance by programs with the accreditation requirements of subsection (11), include in the assessment a determination of the accreditation process status for each program, and submit the assessment as part of the reports required by this subsection.

(11) ACCREDITATION REQUIRED.—

(f) An approved nursing education program may, no sooner than 90 days before the deadline for meeting the accreditation requirements of this subsection, apply to the board for an extension of the accreditation deadline for a period which does not exceed 2 years. An additional extension may not be granted. In order to be eligible for the extension, the approved program must establish that it has a graduate passage rate of 60 percent or higher on the National Council of State Boards of Nursing Licensing Examination for the most recent calendar year and must meet a majority of the board's additional criteria, including, but not limited to, all of the following:

1. A student retention rate of 60 percent or higher for the most recent calendar year.
2. A graduate work placement rate of 70 percent or higher for the most recent calendar year.

3. The program has applied for approval or been approved by an institutional or programmatic accreditor recognized by the United States Department of Education.

4. The program is in full compliance with subsections (1) and (3) and paragraph (5)(b).

5. The program is not currently in its second year of probationary status under subsection (5).

The applicable deadline under this paragraph is tolled from the date on which an approved program applies for an extension until the date on which the board issues a decision on the requested extension.

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**TITLE AMENDMENT**

Remove lines 62-65 and insert:

464.019, F.S.; authorizing the Board of Nursing to adopt specified rules; extending through 2025 the Florida Center for Nursing's responsibility to study and issue an annual report on the implementation of nursing education programs; authorizing certain nursing education programs to apply for an extension for accreditation within a specified timeframe;
providing limitations on and eligibility criteria for
the extension; amending s. 464.202, F.S.;