

HF212 An Act relating to the operation of the board of medicine, the board of nursing, the board of pharmacy, and the dental board.

Currently the board of medicine, board of nursing, board of pharmacy, and dental board all have their own process for administrative and clerical support for licensure, inspections, and investigations. This bill would move administrative and clerical support for the above boards under the Iowa Department of Public Health (IDPH) and move medicine, nursing, pharmacy, and dental inspections and investigations under the Iowa Department of Inspection and Appeals (DIA)

- Nurses rely on the expertise of the Iowa Board of Nursing to monitor and enforce the Iowa nurse practice act. If the oversight of nursing is moved into IDPH and DIA nurses and the public will be at risk of not having experts in nursing monitor the practice of nursing.
- The Iowa Board of Nursing (IBON) is the organization with expertise (IBON leaders and committee members) that understands and monitors the profession of nursing in a manner that protects the public and upholds nurses to high professional standards.
- It is essential that nursing related concerns are reviewed and resolved in a timely manner (for the sake of patient safety and nursing workforce).
- The Iowa Board of Nursing currently has a very time sensitive and structured process to investigate any concerns and this process is essential to quality safe, effective, and efficient nursing care and should be maintained and protected.

References:

- Iowa Administrative Code, Nursing Board [655], Chapter 6 Nursing Practice for Registered Nurses/Licensed Practical Nurses: <https://www.legis.iowa.gov/law/administrativeRules/rules?agency=655&chapter=6&pubDate=09-30-2015>
- Iowa Administrative Code, Nursing Board [655], Chapter 7 Advanced Registered Nurse Practitioners: <https://www.legis.iowa.gov/law/administrativeRules/chapters?agency=655&pubDate=09-30-2015>
- Iowa Board of Nursing, Enforcement/Discipline: <https://nursing.iowa.gov/enforcement>
- Iowa Department of Inspections & Appeals: <https://dia.iowa.gov/>
- Iowa Department of Public Health, Licensing: <https://idph.iowa.gov/Licensing>