



GEORGIA BOARD OF NURSING

The Georgia Board of Nursing met on Friday, September 27, 2024, at 8:00pm via Webex video conference for an emergency meeting.

Friday, September 27, 2024

MEMBERS PRESENT:

- Jennifer Pipkin, RN, MSN, CRNA, Vice President
- Darrell Thompson, RN, DNP, ACNP-BC, FNP-BC
- Maceo Tanner, LPN
- Dena Zinker, MSN, RN, NE-BC, FACHE
- Heather Bohannon, LPN
- Ashley Gresham, MSN, RN, CCRN
- Jessica Willcox, MSN, RN
- Cynthia Summerlin, NP-C, DNP
- Ryan Loke, Consumer Member

OTHERS PRESENT:

- Natara Taylor, Executive Director
- Tommy McNulty, Assistant Attorney General

MEMBERS ABSENT:

- Ashlan Porter, RN, BSN, President
- Joshua Batson, NP-C
- Brandy Hollins, LPN
- Roger Pierce, RN, MSN

OPEN SESSION

Pipkin called the emergency meeting to order at 8:05pm on Friday, September 27, 2024.

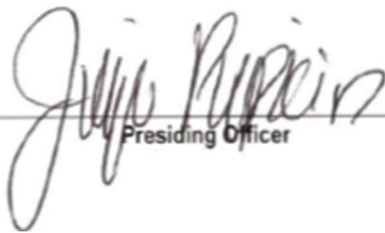
Governance - Policy Number 1.14: Out-of-State Licensed Nurses Practicing in Healthcare/Public Healthcare System in Georgia during an Emergency or Disaster. The board approved the implementation of Policy 1.14.

GHA and other organizations in Georgia reached out to Board member Ryan Loke and Executive Director Natara Taylor, highlighting the urgent need for out-of-state nurses following Hurricane Helene, which impacted Georgia on September 26-27, 2024. Many nurses in Georgia are unable to work due to power outages and flooding. Additionally, Governor Kemp declared a state of emergency on September 24, 2024, in response to the hurricane.

The Board of Nursing has an existing policy, Policy 1.14, that permits licensed practical nurses (LPNs) and registered nurses (RNs) with active, unencumbered licenses from other states to work in recognized healthcare systems in Georgia, including public health, during emergencies. Implementation of this policy requires a Board vote.

After discussion, Loke made a motion to approve the implementation of Policy 1.14. Willcox seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned September 27, 2024, at 8:11pm.



Presiding Officer

Jennifer Pipkin, **Vice President**



Natara Taylor, **Executive Director**

STATE OF GEORGIA

COUNTY OF BIBB

**AFFIDAVIT SUPPORTING CLOSING OF
PUBLIC MEETING**

The Georgia Open Meetings Act, O.C.G.A. § 50-14-1 *et seq.*, requires that all meetings of an entity covered by the statute must be open to the public unless there is some specific statutory exception which permits the closing of the meeting. If such a meeting is to be closed, the law requires that the presiding person execute a sworn affidavit stating that the subject matter of the meeting or the closed portion thereof was devoted to matters within the statutory exceptions and identifying those specific exceptions relied upon. O.C.G.A. §50-14-4(b). A copy of this affidavit must be filed with the minutes of the meeting in question.

Comes now the presiding officer identified below and, before an official duly authorized to administer oaths, makes this affidavit in satisfaction of the statutory requirements outlined above.

1. I am the presiding officer of the Georgia Board of Nursing.
2. I am over the age of 18 and in all other aspects competent to make this sworn statement. I acknowledge that I am giving this statement under oath and penalty of perjury and that I have read the contents of this affidavit prior to signing it.
3. On September 27, 2024 this entity, which is subject to the Open Meetings Act, met. A majority of the quorum of the members present voted to close the meeting or a portion thereof for the following indicated reason(s). I hereby certify that during the closed portion of the meeting, only those subjects indicated below were discussed. I also certify that I have reviewed the exceptions provided under the Open Meetings Act that may permit the closing of a meeting and that, to the best of my knowledge, the reasons I have described in detail below meet the requirements for closing this public meeting.
4. The legal authority for the closure of this meeting was:
O.C.G.A. 43-1-2(k) and 43-1-19(h)
5. The subject(s) discussed and the underlying facts supporting the closing of this meeting are:
To deliberate applications and enforcement matters and to receive information on applications and investigative reports.

FURTHER THE AFFIANT SAYETH NOT



Presiding Officer

Sworn and subscribed before me
This 27th day of September, 2024.



Notary Public

