To amend the District of Columbia Health Occupations Revision Act of 1985 to require continuing education for certain health occupations on the subject of nutrition.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, That this act may be cited as the “Continuing Nutrition Education Amendment Act of 2019”.

Sec. 2. Section 510 of the District of Columbia Health Occupations Revision Act of 1985, effective March 25, 1986 (D.C. Law 6-99; D.C. Official Code § 3-1205.10), is amended as follows:

(a) Subsection (b) is amended as follows:

(1) Paragraph (3)(M) is amended by striking the phrase “; and” and inserting a semicolon in its place.

(2) Paragraph (4)(B)(v) is amended by striking the phrase “; and” and inserting a semicolon in its place.

(3) Paragraph (5)(B)(vii) is amended by striking the period and inserting the phrase “; and” in its place.
(4) A new paragraph (6) is added to read as follows:

"(6) (A) Except as provided in subsection (b) of this section, require that any continuing education requirements for the following practices include 2 credits of instruction on nutrition in accordance with subparagraph (B) of this paragraph:

(i) The practice of medicine;
(ii) The practice of registered nursing;
(iii) The practice of practical nursing;
(iv) The practice of physician assistants;
(v) The practice of physician assistants;
(B) The instruction required by subparagraph (A) of this paragraph shall:
(i) Be evidence-based;
(ii) Not be financially supported, directly or indirectly, by any food, beverage, or dietary supplement manufacturer, company, or trade organization, and
(iii) Provide information and skills to enable health professionals to incorporate nutrition counseling into clinical practice, which may include:
(i) General nutrition throughout the lifecycle;
(ii) Nutrition assessment;
(iii) The role of nutrition in disease prevention;
(iv) Nutrition topics related to medical specialties such as obstetrics and gynecology, cardiology, and oncology;
(v) Food insecurity and its impact on health; and
(vi) Obesity, treatment and prevention."
(b) Subsection (b-1) is amended as follows:

(1) Paragraph (3) is amended by striking the phrase “; and” and inserting a semicolon in its place.

(2) Paragraph (4)(B) is amended by striking the period and inserting the phrase “; and” in its place.

(3) A new paragraph (5) is added to read as follows:

“(5) Waive by rule the requirement in subsection (b)(6) of this section for any licensed health professional who can prove to the satisfaction of the relevant board that she or he did not see patients in a clinical setting in the District during the previous licensing cycle.”.

(c) A new subsection (f) is added to read as follows:

“(f) Within one year after passage of the Continuing Nutrition Education Amendment Act of 2019, as introduced on June 4, 2019, the Department of Health’s DC Center for Rational Prescribing shall develop and offer continuing education courses, free to District healthcare professionals, meeting the requirements of subsection (b)(6)(B) of this section.”.

Sec. 3. Fiscal impact statement.


Sec. 4. Effective date.

This act shall take effect following approval by the Mayor (or in the event of veto by the Mayor, action by the Council to override the veto), a 30-day period of congressional review as provided in section 602(c)(1) of the District of Columbia Home Rule Act, approved December
24, 1973 (87 Stat. 813; D.C. Official Code § 1-206.02(c)(1)), and publication in the District of Columbia Register.