AN ACT to amend the education law, in relation to certification as a clinical nurse specialist (CNS)

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK, REPRESENTED IN SENATE AND ASSEMBLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. The education law is amended by adding a new section 6911 to read as follows:

S 6911. CERTIFICATION AS A CLINICAL NURSE SPECIALIST (CNS). 1. FOR ISSUANCE OF A LICENSE TO PRACTICE AS A CLINICAL NURSE SPECIALIST UNDER SECTION SIX THOUSAND NINE HUNDRED TWO OF THIS ARTICLE, THE APPLICANT SHALL FULFILL THE FOLLOWING REQUIREMENTS:

(A) FILE AN APPLICATION WITH THE DEPARTMENT;
(B) BE LICENSED AS A REGISTERED PROFESSIONAL NURSE IN THIS STATE;
(C) (I) HAVE SATISFACTORILY COMPLETED AN EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM REGISTERED BY THE DEPARTMENT INCLUDING A MASTER'S OR DOCTORAL DEGREE, OR A POST-MASTER'S CERTIFICATE FROM A PROGRAM ACCEPTABLE TO THE DEPARTMENT WHICH PREPARES GRADUATES TO PRACTICE AS CNSS AND WHICH IS ACCREDITED BY A NATIONAL NURSING ACCREDITED BODY ACCEPTABLE TO THE STATE BOARD FOR NURSING, AND (II) MEETS ALL OTHER REQUIREMENTS ESTABLISHED BY THE DEPARTMENT TO PRACTICE AS A CLINICAL NURSE SPECIALIST INCLUDING THE PASSAGE OF A NATIONALLY RECOGNIZED EXAMINATION ACCEPTABLE TO THE DEPARTMENT, OR (III) HAVE RECEIVED EDUCATIONAL PREPARATION DETERMINED BY THE DEPARTMENT TO BE THE SUBSTANTIAL EQUIVALENT OF SUBParagraphs (I) AND (II) OF THIS PARAGRAPH; AND
(D) PAY A FEE TO THE DEPARTMENT OF FIFTY DOLLARS FOR EACH INITIAL CERTIFICATE AUTHORIZING CLINICAL NURSE SPECIALIST PRACTICE AND A TRIENNIAL REGISTRATION FEE OF THIRTY DOLLARS. REGISTRATION UNDER THIS SECTION SHALL BE COTERMINOUS WITH THE CLINICAL NURSE SPECIALIST'S REGISTRATION AS A PROFESSIONAL NURSE.

2. ONLY A PERSON CERTIFIED UNDER THIS SECTION SHALL USE THE TITLE "CLINICAL NURSE SPECIALIST" OR THE DESIGNATION "CNS".

3. THIS SECTION SHALL NOT APPLY TO ANY PERSON WHO IS CURRENTLY CERTIFIED AND PRACTICING AS A CLINICAL NURSE SPECIALIST OR WHO IS ELIGIBLE TO USE THE TITLE "CLINICAL NURSE SPECIALIST."
TAKE A NATIONAL CERTIFYING EXAM ACCEPTABLE TO THE DEPARTMENT FOR CERTIFICATION AS A CLINICAL NURSE SPECIALIST WHEN THIS SECTION TAKES EFFECT.

S 2. The provisions of this act shall not apply to any act or practice authorized by any other law, rule, regulation or certification. The provisions of this act shall not apply to any activity authorized, pursuant to statute, rule or regulation, to be performed by a registered professional nurse in a hospital as defined in article twenty-eight of the public health law.

S 3. The commissioner of education is authorized to promulgate all rules and regulations necessary for the implementation of this act.

S 4. This act shall take effect on the one hundred eightieth day after it shall have become a law.