**SONG-BROWN HEALTH CARE WORKFORCE TRAINING ACT
STANDARDS FOR REGISTERED NURSING EDUCATION PROGRAMS
PURSUANT TO HEALTH AND SAFETY CODE, SECTIONS 128200, et.
ADOPTED BY THE CALIFORNIA HEALTHCARE WORKFORCE POLICY
COMMISSION
(Adopted April 21, 2006)**

I. Each Registered Nursing Education Program approved for funding under the Song-Brown Health Care Workforce Training Act (hereinafter "the Act") shall be operated by an accredited California School of Nursing or shall be approved by the Regents of the University of California or by the Trustees of the California State University and Colleges, or the Board of Governors of the California Community Colleges, and shall be approved by the Board of Registered Nursing pursuant to Section 2834-2837, Article 8, Chapter 6, Div. 2, of the Business and Professions Code.

II. Each Registered Nursing Education Program approved for funding under the Act shall include a component of clinical experience and curriculum in medically underserved multi-cultural communities, lower socioeconomic neighborhoods, or rural communities, and shall be organized to prepare nurses for service in such neighborhoods or communities.

III. Appropriate strategies shall be developed by each nursing education institution receiving funds under the Act to encourage nursing students who are educated in programs funded by the Act to enter into practice in underserved areas for nurses within California as defined by the California Healthcare Workforce Policy Commission (hereinafter referred to as "areas of need"). Such strategies shall incorporate the following elements:

   A. An established procedure to identify, recruit, and admit nursing students who possess characteristics which would suggest a predisposition to practice in areas of need, and who express a commitment to serve in areas of need.

   B. An established counseling and placement program designed to encourage nursing program graduates to enter practice in underserved areas.

   C. A program component such as a preceptorship experience in an underserved area, which will enhance the potential of nursing program graduates to practice in such an area.