



training and education initiatives. In April, the Governor announced the California Nurse Education Initiative, a \$90 million public-private partnership to provide funding for nurse education.

His budget expanded upon that initiative with an additional \$20 million to help California produce more nurses by: Offering loan forgiveness to graduate level nursing students to encourage more nurses to become faculty. Purchasing simulators to create regional simulation laboratories so that more nursing students have access to clinical education facilities: Increasing slots in high demand nursing programs within the California Community College system.

The Song-Brown Act is administered through the Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development's (OSHPD) Healthcare Workforce and Community Development Division (HWCDD). The advisory body to the Song-Brown Program is the Healthcare Workforce Policy Commission. To ensure nurse education programs are represented on the Commission, the Governor's budget called for the inclusion of five additional commissioners on the Commission to represent nursing training programs. For more information about HWCDD or other OSHPD programs, please call (916) 654-2087 or log on to [www.oshpd.ca.gov](http://www.oshpd.ca.gov).