

**BEFORE THE ALABAMA BOARD OF NURSING**

**IN THE MATTER OF:** )  
 )  
**Elizabeth Bush** ) **Ruling No. 2008-001**  
**Petitioner.** )

**DECLARATORY RULING**

COMES NOW the Alabama Board of Nursing, by and through its Executive Officer, N. Genell Lee, and issues the following Declaratory Ruling:

**FINDINGS OF FACT**

1. On February 21, 2008, the Alabama Board of Nursing received a request for a Declaratory Ruling from Petitioner Elizabeth Bush.
2. Petitioner is a student at Samford University and is currently pursuing a Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree from Samford University.
3. Petitioner has completed three and one-half years of Baccalaureate education at Samford University.
4. Samford University is an accredited institution of higher education.
5. The Board has granted Samford University's nursing education program status as an Approved Program.
6. Petitioner was granted early admission to Samford University after completion of her junior year of high school, which Petitioner accepted; therefore, Petitioner did not obtain a high school diploma. The qualifications for early admission to Samford University require that the applicant have a grade point average of 3.50 or better, an ACT score of 25 or an SAT score of 1150, and a written statement of support from parents and from a school official.
7. Petitioner wishes to apply for licensure by the Board.
8. The Board, by statute and regulation, requires that applicants for licensure hold a diploma from an accredited high school or, in the opinion of the Board, the equivalent thereof. Code of Alabama, 1975 § 34-21-21(a); Alabama Board of Nursing Administrative Code § 610-X-4-.01(1)(a).

9. Petitioner seeks a Declaratory Ruling that her educational background is the equivalent of holding a diploma from an accredited high school.

### CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. The Board is authorized to issue this Declaratory Ruling pursuant to Code of Alabama, 1975 § 41-22-11 and Alabama Board of Nursing Administrative Code § 610-X-1-.09.

2. Petitioner is substantially affected by Alabama Board of Nursing Administrative Code § 610-X-4-.01, because she is unable to determine whether she meets the criteria to be eligible for licensure by the Board.

### ORDER

It is hereby **ORDERED** that Petitioner's request for a Declaratory Ruling is granted, and Petitioner, upon receipt of her Baccalaureate degree from Samford University, will be considered by the Board to possess the equivalent of a high school diploma, as required by Alabama Board of Nursing Administrative Code § 610-X-4-.01(1)(a).

SO ORDERED this the \_\_\_\_\_ day of March 2008.

### ALABAMA BOARD OF NURSING

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**N. GENELL LEE, RN, MSN, JD**  
**EXECUTIVE OFFICER**

### CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

**I HEREBY CERTIFY** that on the \_\_\_\_\_ day of March 2008, a true and correct copy of the foregoing Declaratory Ruling of the Alabama Board of Nursing was served by forwarding the same by certified United States mail, first class postage prepaid, and addressed as follows:

Elizabeth Bush  
2801 Riverview Road  
Apartment 4231  
Birmingham, AL 35242-4740

### ALABAMA BOARD OF NURSING

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**N. GENELL LEE, RN, MSN, JD**  
**EXECUTIVE OFFICER**

**ADDRESS OF COUNSEL:**

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