
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE BUREAU TO CONDUCT A STUDY
ON BEST PRACTICES FOR NURSE STAFFING IN HEALTHCARE
FACILITIES

1 WHEREAS, the State is facing a persistent health care
2 staffing shortage, which has been exacerbated by the challenges
3 posed by COVID-19; and
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5 WHEREAS, as a result of this ongoing shortage, the staff-
6 to-patient ratio has greatly increased, leading to working
7 conditions becoming increasingly unpredictable and unsafe and
8 increasing the rate of burn out by health care professionals;
9 and
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11 WHEREAS, research has shown that improved staff-to-patient
12 ratios greatly improve patient safety and outcomes; and
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14 WHEREAS, identifying best practices in labor standards for
15 health care facilities will help inform lawmakers on how to
16 improve working conditions for health care professionals and
17 increase recruitment and retention; now, therefore,
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19 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
20 Thirty-second Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular
21 Session of 2024, the Senate concurring, that the Legislative
22 Reference Bureau is requested to conduct a study on best
23 practices for nurse staffing in healthcare facilities which
24 shall assess and discuss:
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- 26 (1) Best Practices, as set forth by entities such as The
27 Joint Commission, on staffing for hospitals and other
28 settings of care;
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- 1 (2) The effectiveness of different types of staffing
- 2 standards in ensuring patient and worker safety, and
- 3 quality of care;
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- 5 (3) Existing staffing standards and regulations in other
- 6 states;
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- 8 (4) Alternative approaches to staffing standards, such as
- 9 acuity-based staffing models or nurse-driven staffing
- 10 decisions;
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- 12 (5) The experiences and perspectives of healthcare
- 13 professionals, including nurses, administrators, and
- 14 other stakeholders, regarding staffing standards;
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- 16 (6) The potential benefits and challenges associated with
- 17 implementing staffing standards in Hawaii; and
- 18
- 19 (7) The costs of implementing various staffing standards,
- 20 including nurse-to-patient ratios; and
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22 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislative Reference
 23 Bureau is requested to submit a report of its findings and
 24 recommendations to the Legislature no later than 20 days prior
 25 to the convening of the Regular Session of 2025; and

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 27 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a certified copy of this
 28 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Legislative
 29 Reference Bureau.
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