

2E2SHB 1291 - S COMM AMD

By Committee on Health & Long-Term Care

ADOPTED 02/24/2006

1 On page 6, after line 10, insert the following:

2 "NEW SECTION. **Sec. 10.** The secretary of health shall convene a
3 task force to prepare a report for the legislature with proposed
4 guidelines and recommendations for staffing plans that ensure qualified
5 and competent nursing staff are available to provide quality patient
6 care and address how staffing issues can be incorporated in the quality
7 improvement process.

8 (1) In preparing its report and recommendations, the task force
9 shall:

10 (a) Address what research-based factors should be included in unit
11 specific staffing plans in addition to: Patient acuity, census,
12 department geography, and sufficient nursing staff and staff skill mix;

13 (b) Evaluate how facility size, location, patient acuity, and work
14 force availability may influence staffing plans in a unit or facility;

15 (c) Evaluate how staffing plans relate to improved quality of care
16 as identified by authoritative sources and research, and the
17 relationship between staffing and quality improvement initiatives;

18 (d) Address the level of input from direct care providers
19 throughout the development and ongoing evaluation of the staffing plan;

20 (e) Analyze and suggest a method and frequency by which the
21 department shall be notified of each facility's staffing plan;

22 (f) Recommend an approach for how the public can access information
23 about a facility staffing plan, and how the facility will notify direct
24 care providers of the staffing plan;

25 (g) Address how the department will monitor the appropriateness of
26 the facility's staffing plans, recommend a mechanism for staff or other
27 concerned parties to notify the department, and evaluate the
28 department's response to the concerns about a facility's terms or
29 implementation of its staffing plan where patient care appears to have
30 been compromised; and

1 (h) Address how staffing issues could best be incorporated into the
2 peer review or quality improvement process, with consideration of:

3 (i) The methods for addressing staffing issues on a quality
4 improvement form; and

5 (ii) Staffing information in root cause analysis of adverse events
6 and incidents.

7 (2) The task force shall consist of sixteen members, who, aside
8 from the consumer, shall have health care experience or substantive
9 knowledge of the health care field, appointed by the secretary of
10 health;

11 (a) Seven representatives from nursing unions, to include at least
12 five registered nurses, four of whom are involved in direct patient
13 care;

14 (b) Two representatives from the two organizations representing
15 hospitals;

16 (c) Two registered nurses in managerial or executive roles, who are
17 representatives of an organization representing nurse executives;

18 (d) One consumer representative;

19 (e) The secretary of health or the secretary's designee;

20 (f) One chief executive officer or chief operating officer of a
21 hospital;

22 (g) One human resources director or executive of a health care
23 facility who is a representative of an organization representing health
24 care human resources executives; and

25 (h) One representative of organizations representing long-term care
26 facilities.

27 (3) The task force shall issue its report to the legislature by
28 December 31, 2006. If the task force is not able to complete its work
29 by December 31, 2006, an interim report to the legislature is due on
30 that date, with the full report due no later than September 1, 2007.

31 (4) Any administrative costs of the department of health shall be
32 funded from nursing license fee revenues from existing fees deposited
33 into the health professions account."

34 Renumber the remaining section consecutively.

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1 On page 1, line 4 of the title, after "creating" strike "a new
2 section" and insert "new sections"

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