

SENATE BILL 46

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2002 Regular Session
(21r0820)

ENROLLED BILL

-- Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs/Environmental Matters --

Introduced by **Senator Teitelbaum**

Read and Examined by Proofreaders:

Proofreader.

Proofreader.

Sealed with the Great Seal and presented to the Governor, for his approval this
____ day of _____ at _____ o'clock, ____ M.

President.

CHAPTER _____

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Task Force to Statewide Commission on the Crisis in Nursing - Study of the**
3 **Use of Technology to Assist Nurses in Caring for Patients**

4 FOR the purpose of establishing a Task Force to Study the Use of Technology to Assist
5 Nurses in Caring for Patients; specifying the membership and duties of the Task
6 Force; providing for the appointment of a chairperson of the Task Force;
7 providing for staffing of the Task Force; providing for meetings of the Task
8 Force; prohibiting a member of the Task Force from receiving certain
9 compensation; authorizing a member of the Task Force to receive
10 reimbursement for certain expenses; requiring the Task Force to report to the
11 Governor and the General Assembly on or before a certain date; providing for
12 the termination of this Act; and generally relating to the establishment of a Task
13 Force to Study the Use of Technology to Assist Nurses in Caring for Patients
14 requiring the Statewide Commission on the Crisis in Nursing to identify a
15 technology driven point of care application, in consultation with an individual
16 with expertise in technology driven point of care applications, to accomplish
17 certain goals; and generally relating to the Statewide Commission on the Crisis

1 in Nursing and the use of technology in nursing.

2 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,

3 Article - Health Occupations

4 Section 8-7B-01(a)

5 Annotated Code of Maryland

6 (2000 Replacement Volume and 2001 Supplement)

7 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

8 Article - Health Occupations

9 Section 8-7B-01(d)

10 Annotated Code of Maryland

11 (2000 Replacement Volume and 2001 Supplement)

12 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
13 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

14 (a) ~~There is a Task Force to Study the Use of Technology to Assist Nurses in~~
15 ~~Caring for Patients.~~

16 (b) ~~The Task Force shall consist of the following members:~~

17 (1) ~~Two members of the Senate, appointed by the President of the~~
18 ~~Senate;~~

19 (2) ~~Two members of the House of Delegates, appointed by the Speaker of~~
20 ~~the House; and~~

21 (3) ~~Ten members appointed by the Governor as follows:~~

22 (i) ~~Two members from the Maryland Nurses Association;~~

23 (ii) ~~Two representatives from the nursing home industry;~~

24 (iii) ~~Two representatives from the hospital industry; and~~

25 (iv) ~~Four consumer representatives.~~

26 (c) ~~The Governor shall appoint the chairperson of the Task Force.~~

27 (d) ~~The Department of Health and Mental Hygiene shall provide the staffing~~
28 ~~for the Task Force.~~

29 (e) ~~The Task Force shall meet at least once each month.~~

30 (f) ~~A member of the Task Force may not receive compensation for service on~~
31 ~~the Task Force, but shall be reimbursed for expenses under the Standard State Travel~~
32 ~~Regulations, as provided in the State budget.~~

1 long-term implications of the growing nursing personnel shortage in the State,
 2 including:

3 (i) An evaluation of mechanisms currently available in the State
 4 and elsewhere intended to enhance education, recruitment, and retention of nurses in
 5 the workforce and to improve quality of care;

6 (ii) An assessment of the impact of shortages in nursing personnel
 7 on access to, and the delivery of, quality patient care;

8 (3) Develop recommendations on, and facilitate implementation of,
 9 strategies to reverse the growing shortage of qualified nursing personnel in the State,
 10 including:

11 (i) Determining what changes are needed to existing programs,
 12 current scholarship programs, and funding mechanisms to better reflect and
 13 accommodate the changing health care delivery environment and to improve quality
 14 of care to meet the needs of patients;

15 (ii) Facilitating career advancement within nursing;

16 (iii) Identifying more accurately specific shortage areas in a more
 17 timely manner;

18 (iv) Attracting middle and high school students into nursing as a
 19 career; [and]

20 (v) IDENTIFYING A TECHNOLOGY DRIVEN POINT OF CARE
 21 APPLICATION, IN CONSULTATION WITH AN INDIVIDUAL WITH EXPERTISE IN
 22 TECHNOLOGY DRIVEN POINT OF CARE APPLICATIONS, TO:

23 1. MAXIMIZE NURSING PRODUCTIVITY AND INCREASE THE
 24 QUALITY OF PATIENT CARE; AND

25 2. IMPROVE THE WORK ENVIRONMENT INFRASTRUCTURE
 26 IN HEALTH CARE FACILITIES; AND

27 (VI) Projecting a more positive and professional image of nursing;
 28 and

29 (4) Serve as an advisor to public and private entities to facilitate
 30 implementation of the recommendations of the Commission.

31 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
 32 July 1, 2002. ~~It shall remain effective for a period of 7 months and 10 days and, at the~~
 33 ~~end of January 10, 2003, with no further action required by the General Assembly,~~
 34 ~~this Act shall be abrogated and of no further force and effect.~~

