
By: ~~Delegates Mandel, Goldwater, and Nathan Pulliam~~ Nathan Pulliam,
and Bobo

Introduced and read first time: February 4, 2002
Assigned to: Environmental Matters

Committee Report: Favorable with amendments
House action: Adopted
Read second time: March 5, 2002

CHAPTER _____

1 AN ACT concerning

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

4 FOR the purpose of ~~adding certain representatives to the Statewide Commission on~~
5 ~~the Crisis in Nursing~~; requiring the Statewide Commission on the Crisis in
6 Nursing to identify a ~~technology driven~~ technology driven point of care
7 application, in consultation with an individual with expertise in technology
8 driven point of care applications, to accomplish certain goals; and generally
9 relating to the Statewide Commission on the Crisis in Nursing and the use of
10 technology in nursing.

11 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
12 Article - Health Occupations
13 Section 8-7B-01(a)
14 Annotated Code of Maryland
15 (2000 Replacement Volume and 2001 Supplement)

16 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
17 Article - Health Occupations
18 Section 8-7B-01(~~b~~) and (d)
19 Annotated Code of Maryland
20 (2000 Replacement Volume and 2001 Supplement)

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

1

Article - Health Occupations

2 8-7B-01.

3 (a) There is a Statewide Commission on the Crisis in Nursing.

4 (b) ~~The Commission consists of at least the following members:~~5 (1) ~~The Secretary of Health and Mental Hygiene;~~6 (2) ~~The Secretary of Business and Economic Development, or the~~
7 ~~Secretary's designee;~~8 (3) ~~The Superintendent of the State Board of Education or the~~
9 ~~Superintendent's designee;~~10 (4) ~~The Secretary of the Maryland Higher Education Commission, or the~~
11 ~~Secretary's designee;~~12 (5) ~~The Executive Director of the Health Services Cost Review~~
13 ~~Commission, or the Executive Director's designee;~~14 (6) ~~The Director of the Mental Hygiene Administration, or a nurse~~
15 ~~designated by the Director;~~16 (7) ~~The dean of a university-based school of nursing;~~17 (8) ~~One practicing nurse;~~18 (9) ~~A school health nurse;~~19 (10) ~~A representative of the disability services community who is a nurse;~~20 (11) ~~A public health nurse;~~21 (12) ~~A hospital representative, who is a nursing director;~~22 (13) ~~A nursing representative, who is a nursing director of a nonprofit~~
23 ~~nursing home;~~24 (14) ~~A nursing home representative, who is a nursing director of a~~
25 ~~for-profit nursing home;~~26 (15) ~~A union representative, who is a nurse;~~27 (16) ~~A representative of a temporary nurse-staffing agency;~~28 (17) ~~A home-care nurse;~~29 (18) ~~A student nurse representative;~~30 (19) ~~A physician;~~

- 1 ~~(20)~~ A practicing critical care nurse;
- 2 ~~(21)~~ A practicing rehabilitation nurse;
- 3 ~~(22)~~ A practicing behavioral home health nurse;
- 4 ~~(23)~~ A practicing perioperative nurse;
- 5 ~~(24)~~ A practicing occupational health nurse;
- 6 ~~(25)~~ A practicing perianesthesia nurse;
- 7 ~~(26)~~ A practicing gastroenterology nurse;
- 8 ~~(27)~~ A practicing ophthalmic nurse;
- 9 ~~(28)~~ A practicing emergency nurse;
- 10 ~~(29)~~ A practicing oncology nurse;
- 11 ~~(30)~~ A representative of the Maryland Association of Community Support
12 Services;
- 13 ~~(31)~~ A representative of a managed care organization operating in the
14 State;
- 15 ~~(32)~~ A consumer representative;
- 16 ~~(33)~~ A nurse recruiter;
- 17 ~~(34)~~ TWO REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE HOSPICE INDUSTRY;
- 18 ~~(35)~~ TWO REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE HOME HEALTH CARE INDUSTRY;
- 19 ~~(36)~~ Two members of the House of Delegates, appointed by the Speaker of
20 the House; and
- 21 ~~[(35)]~~ ~~(37)~~ Two members of the Senate of Maryland, appointed by the
22 President of the Senate.

23 (d) The Commission shall:

24 (1) Convene a crisis in nursing summit to respond to the nursing
25 shortage in the State;

26 (2) In addition to the issues identified and prioritized as a result of the
27 summit convened under item (1) of this subsection, determine the current extent and
28 long-term implications of the growing nursing personnel shortage in the State,
29 including:

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

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

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

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

13 (ii) Facilitating career advancement within nursing;

14 (iii) Identifying more accurately specific shortage areas in a more
15 timely manner;

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

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

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

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

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

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

30 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
31 July 1, 2002.

