

(PRE-FILED)

By: **Senator Teitelbaum**
Requested: November 5, 2001
Introduced and read first time: January 9, 2002
Assigned to: Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Task Force to Study the Use of Technology to Assist Nurses in Caring for**
3 **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 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
15 MARYLAND, That:

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

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

19 (1) Two members of the Senate, appointed by the President of the
20 Senate;

21 (2) Two members of the House of Delegates, appointed by the Speaker of
22 the House; and

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

24 (i) Two members from the Maryland Nurses Association;

25 (ii) Two representatives from the nursing home industry;

26 (iii) Two representatives from the hospital industry; and

- 1 (iv) Four consumer representatives.
- 2 (c) The Governor shall appoint the chairperson of the Task Force.
- 3 (d) The Department of Health and Mental Hygiene shall provide the staffing
4 for the Task Force.
- 5 (e) The Task Force shall meet at least once each month.
- 6 (f) A member of the Task Force may not receive compensation for service on
7 the Task Force, but shall be reimbursed for expenses under the Standard State Travel
8 Regulations, as provided in the State budget.
- 9 (g) The Task Force shall:
- 10 (1) Study the current use of computerized technology by the nursing
11 community in providing patient care;
- 12 (2) Identify technology-driven point-of-care applications to maximize
13 nursing operational efficiency and improve the quality of patient care in each of the
14 following areas:
- 15 (i) Hospitals and related institutions;
- 16 (ii) Residential treatment centers;
- 17 (iii) Freestanding medical facilities;
- 18 (iv) Freestanding ambulatory care facilities;
- 19 (v) Home health agencies;
- 20 (vi) Residential service agencies;
- 21 (vii) Chronic disease centers;
- 22 (viii) Hospice care facilities;
- 23 (ix) Comprehensive physical rehabilitation facilities;
- 24 (x) Nursing homes; and
- 25 (xi) Assisted living programs; and
- 26 (3) Develop recommendations to implement the use of computerized
27 technology to increase nursing productivity and the quality of patient care.
- 28 (h) The Task Force shall submit a final report to the General Assembly on or
29 before January 10, 2003.

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