

By: **Delegates Mandel, Benson, Boutin, Eckardt, Elliott, Goldwater, Hammen, Hubbard, Kaiser, Kullen, Lee, Marriott, Montgomery, Morhaim, Murray, Nathan-Pulliam, Pendergrass, Petzold, and V. Turner**

Introduced and read first time: February 11, 2005

Assigned to: Health and Government Operations

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Statewide Commission on the Nursing Workforce**

3 FOR the purpose of creating the Statewide Commission on the Nursing Workforce;
4 providing for the membership, duties, leadership, appointment of members and
5 terms of appointment of members, removal of members, reimbursement for
6 certain expenses of members, and staffing of the Commission; authorizing the
7 Commission to appoint an advisory committee of certain individuals to assist
8 with implementation of strategies; requiring the Commission to report annually
9 to the nursing community and the public on the state of the nursing workforce
10 in the State; providing for the Statewide Commission on the Crisis in Nursing
11 shall develop a plan for the appointment and terms of the initial members of the
12 Statewide Commission on the Nursing Workforce; providing for a delayed
13 effective date for certain provisions of this Act; and generally relating to the
14 Statewide Commission on the Nursing Workforce.

15 BY adding to
16 Article - Health Occupations
17 Section 8-7C-01 to be under the new subtitle "Subtitle 7C. Statewide
18 Commission on the Nursing Workforce"
19 Annotated Code of Maryland
20 (2000 Replacement Volume and 2004 Supplement)

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

23 **Article - Health Occupations**

24 **SUBTITLE 7C. STATEWIDE COMMISSION ON THE NURSING WORKFORCE.**

25 8-7C-01.

26 (A) THERE IS A STATEWIDE COMMISSION ON THE NURSING WORKFORCE.

1 (B) THE COMMISSION CONSISTS OF AT LEAST THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS
2 APPOINTED BY EACH INDIVIDUAL ORGANIZATION OR GOVERNMENT AGENCY:

3 (1) A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE MARYLAND NURSES ASSOCIATION;

4 (2) A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE MARYLAND ORGANIZATION OF NURSE
5 EXECUTIVES;

6 (3) A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE LICENSED PRACTICAL NURSES
7 ASSOCIATION;

8 (4) A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE MARYLAND BOARD OF NURSING;

9 (5) A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND MENTAL
10 HYGIENE;

11 (6) A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE MARYLAND HIGHER EDUCATION
12 COMMISSION;

13 (7) A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE MARYLAND ASSOCIATION FOR
14 ASSOCIATE DEGREE EDUCATION;

15 (8) A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE MARYLAND PUBLIC HEALTH NURSING
16 DIRECTORS;

17 (9) THE DEAN OF A BACCALAUREATE NURSING PROGRAM;

18 (10) A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE MARYLAND ASSOCIATION OF STUDENT
19 NURSES;

20 (11) A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE MARYLAND ASSOCIATION OF NURSE
21 RECRUITERS;

22 (12) A CONSUMER REPRESENTATIVE;

23 (13) A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE GOVERNOR'S WORKFORCE INVESTMENT
24 BOARD;

25 (14) TWO ADVANCED PRACTICE NURSES;

26 (15) SIX DIRECT CARE NURSES;

27 (16) A DIRECT CARE NURSE WORKING IN HOME CARE;

28 (17) A PHYSICIAN;

29 (18) A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE MARYLAND HOSPITAL ASSOCIATION;

30 (19) A MARYLAND LICENSED NURSE WORKING IN THE FEDERAL SERVICE;

1 (20) A MEMBER OF THE HOUSE OF DELEGATES, APPOINTED BY THE
2 SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE; AND

3 (21) A MEMBER OF THE SENATE OF MARYLAND, APPOINTED BY THE
4 PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE.

5 (C) THE COMMISSION SHALL ELECT A CHAIR AND A VICE CHAIR IN JANUARY
6 FOR A 3-YEAR TERM.

7 (D) THE COMMISSION MAY ESTABLISH AN EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

8 (E) THE STATE BOARD OF NURSING SHALL APPOINT MEMBERS NOT
9 REPRESENTING A SPECIFIC ORGANIZATION OR GOVERNMENT AGENCY.

10 (F) THE TERM OF EACH MEMBER SHALL BE 4 YEARS.

11 (G) A MEMBER MAY NOT SERVE MORE THAN 2 CONSECUTIVE FULL TERMS.

12 (H) (1) TERMS ARE STAGGERED AS OF THE INITIAL APPOINTMENT ON
13 JANUARY 1, 2006.

14 (2) ON JANUARY 1, 2006:

15 (I) ONE-THIRD OF THE MEMBERS SHALL BE APPOINTED FOR 2
16 YEARS;

17 (II) ONE-THIRD FOR 3 YEARS; AND

18 (III) ONE-THIRD FOR 4 YEARS.

19 (I) TO THE EXTENT PRACTICABLE, ANY VACANCY SHALL BE FILLED BY THE
20 APPOINTING ORGANIZATION OR GOVERNMENT AGENCY WITHIN 90 DAYS OF THE
21 DATE OF THE VACANCY.

22 (J) A MEMBER MAY BE REMOVED BY THE CHAIR FOR FAILURE TO ATTEND 50%
23 OF THE MEETINGS IN 1 YEAR.

24 (K) THE COMMISSION SHALL:

25 (1) ASSESS, MONITOR, AND EVALUATE THE CURRENT AND LONG-TERM
26 IMPACT OF THE NURSING WORKFORCE ON ACCESS TO, AND DELIVERY OF, SAFE,
27 QUALITY HEALTH CARE;

28 (2) DEVELOP AND IMPLEMENT A STANDARDIZED STATEWIDE SYSTEM
29 OF DATA COLLECTION ON THE NURSING WORKFORCE;

30 (3) ESTABLISH COMMITTEES TO ADDRESS ISSUES AND MAKE
31 RECOMMENDATIONS RELATED TO THE NURSING WORKFORCE AND DELIVERY OF
32 SAFE, QUALITY HEALTH CARE;

1 (4) SERVE AS AN ADVISOR TO PUBLIC AND PRIVATE ENTITIES TO
2 FACILITATE IMPLEMENTATION OF NURSING WORKFORCE STRATEGIES;

3 (5) DEVELOP STRATEGIES FOR INCREASING ETHNIC AND CULTURAL
4 DIVERSITY OF THE NURSING WORKFORCE; AND

5 (6) PROVIDE FOR AN ANNUAL MEETING ON THE STATE'S NURSING
6 WORKFORCE AND ISSUES RELATED TO QUALITY NURSING AND HEALTH CARE.

7 (L) THE COMMISSION MAY APPOINT AN ADVISORY COMMITTEE COMPOSED OF
8 STATE GOVERNMENT AND COMMUNITY LEADERS TO ASSIST WITH IMPLEMENTATION
9 OF STRATEGIES.

10 (M) THE COMMISSION SHALL REPORT ANNUALLY TO THE NURSING
11 COMMUNITY AND THE PUBLIC ON THE STATE OF THE NURSING WORKFORCE IN THE
12 STATE.

13 (N) THE STATE BOARD OF NURSING SHALL PROVIDE STAFF SUPPORT FOR THE
14 COMMISSION.

15 (O) A MEMBER OF THE COMMISSION MAY NOT RECEIVE COMPENSATION BUT
16 IS ENTITLED TO REIMBURSEMENT FOR EXPENSES UNDER THE STANDARD STATE
17 TRAVEL REGULATIONS, AS PROVIDED IN THE STATE BUDGET.

18 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That for purposes of
19 establishing the staggered terms of the members of the Statewide Commission on the
20 Nursing Workforce in accordance with § 8-7C-01(h) of the Health - Occupations
21 Article, as enacted by Section 1 of this Act, the Statewide Commission on the Crisis in
22 Nursing, established under Chapters 257 and 258 of the Acts of the General Assembly
23 of 2000, shall develop a plan, consistent with this Act, for the appointment and terms
24 of the initial members of the Statewide Commission on the Nursing Workforce.

25 SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That Section 2 of this Act
26 shall take effect July 1, 2005.

27 SECTION 4. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That, except as provided in
28 Section 3 of this Act, this Act shall take effect January 1, 2006.