

**BOARD OF NURSING**

Professional and Vocational Licensing Division  
Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs  
State of Hawaii

**AGENDA**

**Date:** Thursday, February 6, 2025

**Time:** 9:00 a.m.

**In-Person Meeting Location:** Queen Liliuokalani Conference Room  
HRH King Kalakaua Building  
335 Merchant Street, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

**Virtual Participation:** Virtual Videoconference Meeting – Zoom Meeting  
(use link below)  
[https://dcca-hawaii-  
gov.zoom.us/j/83388860659?pwd=41ukScN3gB  
TwchCjazlgOcKMhji3Gp.1](https://dcca-hawaii.gov.zoom.us/j/83388860659?pwd=41ukScN3gBTwchCjazlgOcKMhji3Gp.1)

**Phone:** (669) 900 6833

**Meeting ID:** 833 8886 0659

**Passcode:** 158497

**AGENDA:** The agenda was posted on the State electronic calendar as required by Hawaii Revised Statutes (“HRS”) section 92-7(b).

If you wish to submit written testimony on any agenda item, please submit your testimony to [nursing@dcca.hawaii.gov](mailto:nursing@dcca.hawaii.gov) or by hard-copy mail to Attn: Board of Nursing, P.O. Box 3469, Honolulu, HI 96801. We request submission of testimony at least 24 hours prior to the meeting to ensure that it can be distributed to the Board members.

**INTERNET ACCESS:**

To view the meeting and provide live oral testimony, please use the link at the top of the agenda. You will be asked to enter your name. The Board requests that you enter your full name, but you may use a pseudonym or other identifier if you wish to remain anonymous. You will also be asked for an email address. You may fill in this field with any entry in an email format, e.g., \*\*\*\*\*@\*\*\*mail.com.

Your microphone will be automatically muted. When the Chairperson asks for public testimony, you may click the Raise Hand button found on your Zoom screen to indicate that you wish to testify about that agenda item. The Chairperson will individually enable each testifier to unmute their microphone. When recognized by the Chairperson, please unmute your microphone before speaking and mute your microphone after you finish speaking.

**PHONE ACCESS:**

If you cannot get internet access, you may get audio-only access by calling the Zoom Phone Number listed at the top on the agenda.

Upon dialing the number, you will be prompted to enter the Meeting ID which is also listed at the top of the agenda. After entering the Meeting ID, you will be asked to either enter your panelist number or wait to be admitted into the meeting. You will not have a panelist number. So, please wait until you are admitted into the meeting.

When the Chairperson asks for public testimony, you may indicate you want to testify by entering “\*” and then “9” on your phone’s keypad. After entering “\*” and then “9”, a voice prompt will let you know that the host of the meeting has been notified. When recognized by the Chairperson, you may unmute yourself by pressing “\*” and then “6” on your phone. A voice prompt will let you know that you are unmuted. Once you are finished speaking, please enter “\*” and then “6” again to mute yourself.

For both internet and phone access, when testifying, you will be asked to identify yourself and the organization, if any, that you represent. Each testifier will be limited to five minutes of testimony per agenda item.

If connection to the meeting is lost for more than 30 minutes, the meeting will be continued on a specified date and time. This information will be provided on the Board’s website at:

<https://cca.hawaii.gov/pvl/boards/nursing/board-meeting-schedule/>.

Instructions to attend State of Hawaii virtual board meetings may be found online at: <https://cca.hawaii.gov/pvl/files/2020/08/State-of-Hawaii-Virtual-Board-Attendee-Instructions.pdf>.

1. Roll Call, Quorum, Call to Order – HRS §92-3 Open Meetings and HAR §16-89-70 Oral testimony
2. Chair’s Report
  - a. Announcements
3. Approval of the Open Session and Executive Session Minutes of the December 5, 2024 Meeting.

The Board may enter into Executive Session to consult with the Board’s attorney on questions and issues pertaining to the Board’s powers, duties, privileges, immunities, and liabilities in accordance with HRS section 92-5(a)(4) to review the executive session minutes.

4. 2025 Legislative Session

- a. 2025 Time for Triage: A Summary of Best Practices, State Requirements, and Successful Efforts to Reduce Nurse Staffing Shortages

- b. SB 8 RELATING TO JURY DUTY

Allows an advanced practice registered nurse to claim exemption from service as a Juror.

- c. SB 119 RELATING TO NURSING

Appropriates funds to establish the Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree program at the University of Hawaii Maui College. Appropriate funds.

- d. SB 213 RELATING TO CHILDREN

Requires medically appropriate and reasonable life-saving and life-sustaining medical care and treatment for all infants born alive. Establishes civil and criminal penalties.

- e. SB 296 RELATING TO MINORS

Authorizes a physician, upon consultation with a minor patient who indicates that the minor was the victim of a sexual offense, with the consent of the minor patient, to perform customary and necessary examinations to obtain evidence of the sexual offense and may prescribe for and treat the patient for any immediate condition caused by the sexual offense. Provides that the consent of the parent, parents, or legal guardian of a minor offender who has been committed to the Hawaii youth correctional facilities is not necessary in order to authorize hospital, medical, mental health, dental, emergency health, or emergency surgical care.

- f. SB 305 RELATING TO MEDICAL RECORDS

Established fees that medical providers may charge for requests for a patient's medical records from the patient's family member, caregiver, or representative. Requires medical providers to respond to requests in a timely manner. Establishes penalties.

- g. SB 318 RELATING TO GENETIC INFORMATION

Requires the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs to adopt rules establishing privacy requirements for direct-to-consumer genetic testing in the State. Requires the Department's rules to specify whether consumers' genetic information may be used for purposes of investigative genetic genealogy.

- h. SB 368 RELATING TO MEDICAL RECORDS

Requires health care providers to provide patients with copies of billing records within ten working days of a request from the patient and provide written notice to patients if there is a credit on the patient's account. Clarifies that health care providers must respond to medical record requests from patients in a timely manner pursuant to federal regulations, with exceptions. Establishes penalties for violations.

i. SB 424 RELATING TO LABOR STANDARDS AT HEALTH CARE FACILITIES

Establish certain minimum registered nurse-to-patient ratios for hospitals. Establishes a process to obtain a variance from the minimum registered nurse staffing standards. Requires hospitals to establish hospital registered nurse staffing committees by 9/1/025 to develop and adopt registered nurse staffing plans. Requires the staffing committees to submit a charter to the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations. Beginning 7/1/2026, requires hospitals to submit their registered nurse staffing plan on an annual basis, and implement the staffing plan. Establishes a complaint and appeals process and penalties. Appropriates funds.

j. SB 482 RELATING TO COGNITIVE ASSESSMENTS

Requires all health care providers who accept Medicare to provide a cognitive assessment as part of the Medicare Part B annual wellness visit for Medicare beneficiaries sixty-five years of age or older, with certain exceptions. Requires health care providers to submit certain information to the Executive Office on Aging and the Executive Office on Aging to report de-identified aggregated data to the Legislature on an annual basis. Appropriates funds. Effective 1/1/2026.

k. SB 947 RELATING TO BIRTH CERTIFICATES (companion: HB 1452)

Expands the types of health care providers who can submit an affidavit for a new certificate of birth for certain birth registrants.

l. SB 1150 RELATING TO HEALTH CARE

Expands the protections established under Act 2, SLH 2023, to include gender-affirming health care services. Clarifies jurisdiction under the Uniform Child-Custody Jurisdiction and Enforcement Act for cases involving children who obtain gender-affirming health care services.

m. SB 1203 RELATING TO COGNITIVE ASSESSMENTS

Requires all health care providers who accept Medicare to provide a cognitive assessment as part of the Medicare Part B annual wellness visit for Medicare beneficiaries sixty-five years of age or older, with certain exceptions. Requires health care providers to submit certain information to the Executive Office on Aging and the Executive Office on Aging to report de-identified aggregated data to the Legislature on an annual basis. Appropriates funds. Effective 1/1/2026.

n. SB 1242 RELATING TO NURSES

Requires and appropriates moneys for the establishment of a 5-year nurse recertification pilot program to be administered by the Department of Health. Requires reports to the Legislature. Appropriates moneys for the Department of Health to award scholarships to eligible nursing students who agree to teach nursing in Hawai'i after graduating.

o. SB 1373 RELATING TO ADMINISTRATIVE LICENSURE ACTIONS AGAINST SEX OFFENDERS

Authorizes the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs and certain licensing boards to automatically revoke and refuse to renew, restore, or reinstate the professional licenses of registered sex offenders.

p. SB 1596 RELATING TO NURSING

Requires the Department of Health to identify one facility in each of the counties of Hawai'i, Kauai, and Maui that has the capability to establish a Pearson VUE Authorized Test Center as a test site to administer a NCLEX for nurses; equip each facility identified with the technical and facility requirements necessary for a Pearson VUE Authorized Test Center; and submit an application for each facility to Pearson Education, Inc. to be authorized and contracted as a Pearson VUE Authorized Test Center. Requires a report to the Legislature.

q. HB 62 RELATING TO HEALTHCARE FACILITY NURSE STAFFING

Implements various nurse-to-patient ratios at hospitals and care homes. Requires the Department of Health to audit healthcare facility compliance.

r. HB 248 RELATING TO MEDICAL RECORDS

Establishes fees that medical providers may charge for requests for a patient's medical records from the patient's family member, caregiver, or representative. Requires medical providers to respond to requests in a timely manner. Establishes penalties.

s. HB 303 RELATING TO HEALTHCARE PRECEPTORS

Expands the definitions of "preceptor" and "volunteer-based supervised clinical training rotation" to improve accessibility for providers to receive income tax credits for acting as preceptors, including removing "primary care" from the criteria to qualify as a preceptor. Adds dietitians, physician assistants, and social workers to the list of preceptors and eligible students. Expands eligibility for the tax credit to include accredited residency programs that require preceptor support. Adds the Director of Health and residency programs with eligible students to the Preceptor Credit Assurance Committee. Applies to taxable years beginning after 12/31/2025.

t. HB 311 RELATING TO GENERAL EXCISE TAX EXEMPTION

Establishes general excise tax exemptions for various medical services, including dental services.

u. HB 897 RELATING TO THE NURSE LICENSURE COMPACT

Authorizes the Governor to enter the State into a multistate Nurse Licensure Compact that will allow a nurse who is licensed by a home state to practice under a multistate licensure privilege in each party state. Beginning 7/1/20 , requires each person who holds a multistate nurse license issued by another state and is employed by a health care facility to complete annual demographic data surveys. Authorizes the State Board of Nursing to charge different fees for registered nurses and licensed practical nurses who hold a multistate license issued by the State. Provides that the Nurse Licensure Compact shall become effective and binding in the State two years after the Act takes effect.

v. HB 1244 RELATING TO LABOR STANDARDS AT HEALTH CARE FACILITIES

Establishes certain minimum registered nurse-to-patient staffing requirements for hospitals. No later than 9/1/2025, requires hospitals to create hospital registered nurse staffing committees. Beginning 7/1/2026, requires hospitals to implement registered nurse staffing plans. Appropriates funds.

5. Reports:

- a. Hawai'i State Center for Nursing – Laura Reichhardt, Executive Director
- b. Hawai'i American Nurses Association – Elizabeth Kahakua, Executive Director
- c. Hawai'i Association of Professional Nurses – Jeremy Creekmore, President

6. Applications:

The Board may move into Executive Session in accordance with HRS §92-4 and §92-5(a)(1) and (4) "To consider and evaluate personal information relating to individuals applying for professional or vocational licenses cited in section 26-9 or both;" and "To consult with the Board's attorney on questions and issues pertaining to the Board's powers, duties, privileges, immunities, and liabilities;" (Board will vote in Open Meeting.)

- a. Ratification Lists
- b. Applications

1) Registered Nurses

- i. Stephanie Williams
- ii. Linette De Los Reyes
- iii. Caressa Barth
- iv. Lori Miller
- v. Carline Guillaume

7. New Business

- a. Legislative Liaison(s)

The Board will consider appointing legislative liaison(s) to provide positions and testify on legislative proposals.

8. Next Meeting:
- |            |  |
|------------|--|
| Date:      | Thursday, March 6, 2025  |
| Time:      | 9:00 a.m.  |
| In-Person: | Queen Liliuokalani Conference Room<br>King Kalakaua Building, 1st Floor<br>335 Merchant Street<br>Honolulu, Hawaii 96813 |
| Virtual:   | Zoom Meeting   |

9. Adjournment

01/31/25

***If you need an auxiliary aid/service or other accommodation due to a disability, contact Alexander Pang at (808)586-2701 or nursing@dcca.hawaii.gov as soon as possible, preferably by February 4, 2025. Requests made as early as possible have a greater likelihood of being fulfilled. Upon request, this notice is available in alternate/accessible formats.***

**Board of Nursing – Ratification List  
February 6, 2025**

**Licensed Practical Nurses (LPN)**

LPN-21242	ANDREIA MULLER DA SILVA TYRIE	LPN-21265	ERIC BARRETTE PANKINS
LPN-21243	MISTY LOVE KRUGER	LPN-21266	LATASHA JACKSON
LPN-21244	SIAMA TAMAR BICKELL	LPN-21267	ALEXIE PUALEI LANE-SCHWARZE
LPN-21245	TINA MARIE KILDUFF	LPN-21268	JENNIFER MARIE COTTON
LPN-21246	LINA GUZMAN SKIBBA	LPN-21269	EVERLYN VARGAS SALAZAR
LPN-21247	LEANDRA HOLLY TESTERMAN	LPN-21270	VIRGILUS MAHAKWE OGBEDEAGU
LPN-21248	JUSTYNE RAMENTO	LPN-21271	DIONNE DESIREE LECHUGA
LPN-21249	ANNA ANN XAYPHENGSY	LPN-21272	HANNAH NICOLE HIATT
LPN-21250	CHANCELLO MILLER	LPN-21273	SHIER CASSANDRA RANCHEZ ASUNCION
LPN-21251	ARISTOTLE RAMOS AURELIO JR	LPN-21274	ELIZABETH ANNE MITCHELL
LPN-21252	DELISHIA DENISE JONES	LPN-21275	TWANA MARIE LADAY
LPN-21253	MICHELLE JOY RASOS RASALAN	LPN-21276	CHERYL VISAYA SALIBA
LPN-21254	NOELLE ELIZABETH BRENNENSTUHL	LPN-21277	AURTAVIA SHARDE MCRAE
LPN-21255	JANE ARDIN FAMILAR RODRIGO	LPN-21278	YURUANI MARCELA VILLA HIDALGO
LPN-21256	SHAIRA VILLANUEVA SABUGO	LPN-21279	HILDA HILARIO
LPN-21257	RUTH RUTENDO MAHUPETE	LPN-21280	MAY VICTORIA CARTER
LPN-21258	MYRTLE DELORES SMITH	LPN-21281	ANGIE MARIA JAMES
LPN-21259	JESSICA NAGOSHI	LPN-21283	JOALYN BOLIVAR LAPITAN
LPN-21260	HEIDI CHRISTINE WARDE	LPN-21284	MALIE RACHEL KAIWIULAOKALANI KANEKUKILAKILA MEDEIROS
LPN-21261	NATASHA J REYES	LPN-21285	AUGUSTINE DARKO BOATENG
LPN-21262	MARIE SANDRA RAPHAEL	LPN-21286	JOLENE CHUN
LPN-21263	REGINA RICHLET HARDING HUNTER		
LPN-21264	CHRISTINA GONZALEZ		

**Registered Nurses (RN)**

RN-122610	VINCENT ANTHONY LEHMAN	RN-122626	EUNICE O AUGUSTUS
RN-122611	MARTHA WALKER	RN-122627	FLORA CARMENZA HAPP
RN-122612	HOLLY MARIE KIRK	RN-122628	NATALIE MINETTE TRUJILLO
RN-122613	KRYSTLE MARIE MAGANA	RN-122629	AN QUOC BUI
RN-122614	SHERRY NOLLE	RN-122630	JOLEEN DE GROOT
RN-122615	CHANDRA DAKOTA WOOD	RN-122631	YVONNE STEWART
RN-122616	MAGGIE KATHLEEN OBRIEN	RN-122632	APRIL R SHORTZ
RN-122617	RENAN VILLEGAS	RN-122633	TNEECIA L APPLEWHITE
RN-122618	JESSICA MARIE MARTINEZ	RN-122634	CHEVI MICHELLE PERSONS
RN-122619	CARRIE ELIZABETH HIGHTOWER	RN-122635	AMANDA LYNN JOHNSON
RN-122620	JILLIAN BULLOCK	RN-122636	CHRISTINA SERIANNI
RN-122621	ASHLEY SAVAGE	RN-122637	VANESSA WILLIAMS
RN-122622	TATIANA MARIA ARCE	RN-122638	KELSEY BELLE COOK
RN-122623	MARIA CHRISTINA S QUEVEDO	RN-122639	REBECCA LINDA CRASNEAN
RN-122624	AMBER L DICKEN	RN-122640	CAMERON JAMES RODRIGUEZ
RN-122625	ASHLEY LEANN SMITH	RN-122641	TANISHA TUTCHSTONE

**Board of Nursing – Ratification List  
February 6, 2025**

RN-122642	MAHALIA JOSEPH	RN-122685	SHANNON ZENGLER
RN-122643	ELIZABETH BURKE GUIDRY	RN-122686	MARIMAE EDITH REALINA
RN-122644	DANDY E MOREIRA	RN-122687	DANILO FIGUEREDO
RN-122645	KENZIE R LOVINGOOD	RN-122688	HANNAH DAVIS
RN-122646	STEFANIE FATEMEH BARR	RN-122689	KAILEE RAYE MASTRACCHIO
RN-122647	SHEENA VACHHANI	RN-122690	HEATHER ANN WOOD
RN-122648	NICHOLAS DANFORD SORENSEN	RN-122691	JENNIFER MICHELLE VASQUEZ
RN-122649	AMBER WOHLERS	RN-122692	ROOZNIKCHY THOMAS
RN-122650	ROSEMARY NNEKA WILLIAMS	RN-122693	TAMMY LEE CRAYTON
RN-122651	OLIVIA JANCOSKO	RN-122694	MICHAELENE COOPER
RN-122652	SOL ESTRADA	RN-122695	MARIA TERESA ALCANTARA
RN-122653	KIMBERLY MOORE	RN-122696	MICHELE RENEE BABB
RN-122654	MARCELLA MARIE YOUNG	RN-122697	ALICE WILKS
RN-122655	JANDEX FERNANDEZ ABALOS	RN-122698	MARY JOEY GODINEZ PEREZ
RN-122656	YSSA DENIZARD	RN-122699	CINDY GUAN
RN-122657	DANA NICOLE WIWCZAR	RN-122700	LEAH MICHELLE RICKMAN
RN-122658	DANIELLE MARIE TIMMONS	RN-122701	MERCEDES ANDERSON
RN-122659	RENE LOUISE BUSSING	RN-122702	COURTNEY CALHOUN
RN-122660	JENNIFER L ARIAS	RN-122703	LEEAH EMYAH SANDIFER
RN-122661	CLAUDIA ELIZABETH MENDEZ	RN-122704	NASHALIE NUNEZ DELGADO
RN-122662	MATTHEW RYAN ADAMS	RN-122705	JADA SUE JORDAN
RN-122663	MELISSA KAY ROSE	RN-122706	ALYSSA REANNA PHILLIPS
RN-122664	SHANNON COOK	RN-122707	AMANDA MUDGE
RN-122665	JARROD M NERO	RN-122708	ANNA LEVINSON
RN-122666	BRITTNEY LOVE	RN-122709	MARIEL BILLENA
RN-122667	LOVERN A GREEN	RN-122710	LAURA LYNN FERREIRA
RN-122668	GANIAT ADETOLA ADAGUN-BABATUNDE	RN-122711	SHALONDA JONTA SANDERS
RN-122669	FATIMA PIOQUINTO LUTZ	RN-122712	JENNIFER TULLOCH
RN-122670	JORDAN T BOLYARD	RN-122713	LESLIE CAROLE LANGFORD
RN-122671	BRANDON OYABU	RN-122714	RONNI MADIGAN
RN-122672	RUBIE APPLE BALLESTEROS SUTHERLAND	RN-122715	MCKENZIE HIGGINS
RN-122673	CHERIE L HARDY	RN-122716	ERIN MCSHAN TRUNCK
RN-122674	LAURIE MARIE BENTLEY	RN-122717	FRANCISCA VICTORIA RODRIGUEZ
RN-122675	SHELBY BRIN	RN-122718	GABRIELLE CHRISTINA VOSS
RN-122676	SYLVIA GAFFER	RN-122719	ERIN EVORA
RN-122677	KENDRA A GIBSON	RN-122720	ANGELA LYNN THOM
RN-122678	ADRIANA M LINDSEY	RN-122721	AMBER LYNETTE KING
RN-122679	ELEANOR G QUINN-ZAAL	RN-122722	JOSHUA ERIC RASBAND
RN-122680	KRISTEN ROSE HIATT	RN-122723	KATRINALEAH FLORENCIO
RN-122681	HOLLY CRESSWELL LUNSFORD	RN-122724	KERRIE KUCZINSKI
RN-122682	HEIDI EDWARDS	RN-122725	MICHAEL FIRNENO
RN-122683	MARIAM ABDALLAH	RN-122726	NATHANIEL BENJAMIN FORES
RN-122684	MICHELLE URIE DUKHOVNY	RN-122727	AMANDA GRACE NEWELL
		RN-122728	PAOLA ANDREA VALLEJO



**Board of Nursing – Ratification List  
February 6, 2025**

RN-122729	JAMIE LOPEZ	RN-122773	SARAH L GRAVES
RN-122730	AMANDA LINEBERRY	RN-122774	MADISON ROSE MCQUAID
RN-122731	JESSICA NAGOSHI	RN-122775	AMBERLEE MONTARELLA
RN-122732	SARA KRISTINA SORIA	RN-122776	KAEDI FEHLBERG
RN-122733	JESSICA HAUG	RN-122777	ALEKSANDRA EDYTA MAJDAK
RN-122734	JORDAN M SEESE	RN-122778	HANNAH BELK
RN-122735	SCOTT FRIE	RN-122779	VALERIE CORMIER CHARLES
RN-122736	HANNAH ATAKORAH	RN-122780	TESSA MARIE GODFREY
RN-122737	JAMIE NICHOLE WILSON	RN-122781	HANNAH ELIZABETH TOLAR
RN-122738	EMILY WEATHERSPOON	RN-122782	CYNTHIA J WEST
RN-122739	FAITH LOVENESS CHIBULUNJE	RN-122783	APRIL COLEEN PUNZALAN
RN-122740	LINDSAY MARIE DAVIS	RN-122784	LESLIE SUZANNE WASHBURN
RN-122741	MCKIALA DIANE CAMERON	RN-122785	MARJORIE FORTIL
RN-122742	KELSEY PAIGE BARNSON	RN-122786	RANDY C LEOPARD
RN-122743	SHEENA KERLEY	RN-122787	CATHERINE LEE SINCLAIR
RN-122744	SAVANNAH STARRATT	RN-122788	GWEN CHERYL PEAD
RN-122745	LINDSEY COLLINS	RN-122789	SANDRA LEE GLASS
RN-122746	PAMELA LOUISE BORELLO	RN-122790	COURTNEY CHOJNOWSKI
RN-122747	STEPHANIE A CARPIO	RN-122791	ANNESE BAUDIN
RN-122748	MONIQUE MONESTIME	RN-122792	AMBER MARIE CRAIG
RN-122749	RORY JOHN SHERBAN	RN-122793	JOSE ABRAHAM HERNANDEZ
RN-122750	SUZANNE CAROLINE BENFIELD	RN-122794	COLLEEN ROONEY
RN-122751	JERRY JOSEPH DE JESUS RODRIGUEZ	RN-122795	ANNA SIMONE
RN-122752	KIMBERLY CLEMMONS	RN-122796	DANIELLE MAY
RN-122753	LINDA FAY DIXON	RN-122797	SIBYL TENILLE PAGE
RN-122754	CIERA MARIE WHITEHEAD	RN-122798	GLADYS ANDREA RODRIGUEZ RUIZ
RN-122755	HAYLIE E JOHNSON	RN-122799	SHANICE ANNA MCGHIE
RN-122756	ANNA ROSALINA GARWOOD	RN-122800	ALEXIS ROSE GAETZ
RN-122757	CHELSEA JOSEPH	RN-122801	BROOKLYN HALLMETS
RN-122758	ALICIA ELIZABETH LEACH	RN-122802	HOLLY MICHELLE DUGGAN
RN-122759	GABRIELA CEPEDA	RN-122803	KARI ANN HARDER
RN-122760	CAROLYN JANE RATCLIFFE	RN-122804	SUNCERAE YOUNG
RN-122761	LAURYN NICOLE SCHRAM	RN-122805	ASHLEY N BOWEN
RN-122762	TRACY ANDERSON	RN-122806	CORY NATHAN PROFFITT
RN-122763	SARAI DREW GRANT	RN-122807	SAYURI ALVEY
RN-122764	CONNIE KREPS	RN-122808	CHARMAINE JANE MILLA AOKI
RN-122765	KATHLEEN BOYETTE	RN-122809	JESSICA WILSON
RN-122766	HANNAH PUFF	RN-122810	NORA M OUELLETTE
RN-122767	DANIELLE CASSIDY HANSEN	RN-122811	KAYLEE JOCKISCH
RN-122768	MELISSA JEAN REYNOLDS	RN-122812	SHERENE DIANE VASSELL
RN-122769	QUENTINA ANDRUS	RN-122813	MIKHAIL-KEENE BELTRAN ADAN
RN-122770	KRASIMIRA N BAKARDJIEVA	RN-122814	MADISON BROOKE CRONIN
RN-122771	SANDRA CARDOZO	RN-122815	SHERRIE YVONNE MELTON-COOPER
RN-122772	SABRINA EATON	RN-122816	SHEILA MAE PABILLORE CASTINO

**Board of Nursing – Ratification List  
February 6, 2025**

RN-122817	TYLER DOYLE-BANKS	RN-122860	ELLORY CLAIRE FERRIS
RN-122818	FRITZ ALDREY CUSTODIO	RN-122861	RACHELLE DAWN KITTLE
RN-122819	JUDYLYNE O DANH	RN-122862	JANNIS ORIANA CHIRINOS PARRA
RN-122820	WISLENE JOSEPH	RN-122863	CAMILA VILLESENDA
RN-122821	TRENTON ROBERT WILSON	RN-122864	JOANNA LOUISE GAERTNER
RN-122822	TERESA J CIRVELLO	RN-122865	BREANNA GAYLE ROSOFF
RN-122823	AUDREA N PYE	RN-122866	BROOKE LYNN THOMPSON
RN-122824	ALLISON KAY NETO	RN-122867	LINDA CHINWE ABENGOWE
RN-122825	JENNIFER REBECCA MILLER	RN-122868	KAYLA ALISSA MITCHELL
RN-122826	KIANA KING	RN-122869	LAURA MIHAELA ROSS
RN-122827	KATELYN MAKENNA ROTH	RN-122870	EMMA JONES
RN-122828	NICOLE KING	RN-122871	KATHRYN ELIZABETH FORD
RN-122829	DIANA W ROLLAND	RN-122872	SHERRI PATRICIA HINSON
RN-122830	SUZANNE MARIE REICHERT	RN-122873	LISA LYNN MARTIN
RN-122831	NATHAN THOMAS SHELHAMER	RN-122874	MEGAN MARTINEZ
RN-122832	SHALISA SANUNTOONG	RN-122875	CARALEE DOWLING VOELKER
RN-122833	CODY CRAWFORD	RN-122876	ERIN MELISSA EICHHORN
RN-122834	VERONICA MARIE POINDEXTER	RN-122877	JESSICA NICOL HERNDON
RN-122835	LATANYA T HARRIS	RN-122878	ANDRES DANIEL ODER
RN-122836	HAYDEE G CALAOAGAN	RN-122879	DEBRA JEAN AMMETER
RN-122837	MICHELLE DEVOST	RN-122880	DAVLYN A DONOVAN
RN-122838	THOMAS JEFFERS	RN-122881	SHANNA SCOTT
RN-122839	TONYA KENNEDY	RN-122882	MARY RENEE WALTERS
RN-122840	MARSHA MARIE BOWMAN	RN-122883	ERIN TAYLOR RENSHAW
RN-122841	SUSAN KEENY	RN-122884	DEAN MARIUS ALIBIN SY
RN-122842	WILLIAM FRANK DRABENSTADT	RN-122885	MCKENZIE PARRA
RN-122843	SARAH HESS	RN-122886	PERLA AMERICA NAVARRO
RN-122844	ALEJANDRO RENDON GONZALEZ	RN-122887	LINDA KAY MERFELD
RN-122845	BRIDGET SCHULER	RN-122888	NATALIE LOUISE BOGESKI
RN-122846	BAILEY RAY MATHIS	RN-122889	ABIGAIL BAHENA
RN-122847	DASIA DURAN	RN-122890	GARRETT DENNIS HALL
RN-122848	DIANA CARIG PAET	RN-122891	NATASA NADA POUCKI
RN-122849	MEGAN MCKENZIE HIRSCH	RN-122892	BRITTNEY FRANKS
RN-122850	ZSUZSANNA BALOG	RN-122893	BIANCA MARIE DIFEO
RN-122851	AMANDA RAEANN CHIU CHAPIN	RN-122894	KRISTA M ELKINS
RN-122852	KELLY MCDANIEL MCCALLISTER	RN-122895	ADRIANNA MARIE HATCH
RN-122853	LOVE JENNY FLORE DOURA	RN-122896	ANGELA M WHITE
RN-122854	JACQUELINE KIEMI OSUMI	RN-122897	VIRGINIA ELLEN WURZBACH
RN-122855	GARY GOROSPE FELIPE	RN-122898	TIFFANY TAMIKO TAKUSHI
RN-122856	MEGAN NICOLE HOTTINGER	RN-122899	ANDREA TAI
RN-122857	ROBIN THERESA LEMIEUX	RN-122900	ANA LAURA MESA
RN-122858	KARLA MARIELLYS ALMODOVAR MONTALVO	RN-122901	SARAH ELIZABETH BAEZA
RN-122859	LESLIE JAN CONZEMIUS	RN-122902	SHAWNA PORUMB
		RN-122903	CLAY FORD DELA CRUZ GIRON

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RN-122904	LAVERNE TERESA WOODE	RN-122947	JORDAN VAILLANCOURT
RN-122905	AGYNESS CONSTANCE DAY	RN-122948	TAYLOR RENEE BLANKENSHIP
RN-122906	CARMEN RHODES	RN-122949	DEBRA JACOBS
RN-122907	JACQUELYN A INGRAM	RN-122950	LISA ANN LOWERS
RN-122908	LEIGH ANN COCHRAN SCHEIBE	RN-122951	KYLIE MARIE RUYBALID
RN-122909	NIKKIA BROOKSHIRE	RN-122952	KACY RENEE NOLLER
RN-122910	SHELBY JOSIE PIERRE	RN-122953	JOHN COPE
RN-122911	ABIGAIL JOY PRINZO	RN-122954	LORENZO W LAWRENCE
RN-122912	AMBERLYE SHANTEL TAYLOR	RN-122955	JACQUELINE CHAPPO
RN-122913	ANGELA FRANCES DYCUS	RN-122956	OLIVIA KOEHNKE
RN-122914	KAITLYN DOLAN	RN-122957	GIANA LEWIS
RN-122915	MADELINE WARDA	RN-122958	GABRIANA NICOLE MOORE
RN-122916	TAMAS WILLIAM MURPHY	RN-122959	CODY PAUL LANNING
RN-122917	ANNIE SCHULER	RN-122960	KRISTEN LEE
RN-122918	MAX KLEIN	RN-122961	MENSUR SRKALOVIC
RN-122919	KELSEY LYNN LORENZ	RN-122962	COURTNEY SOUKASEUM
RN-122920	ASHLEY BO AZZARELLO	RN-122963	WENDY CASCIOLA
RN-122921	ASHLEY BRINNEMAN	RN-122964	ABEGAIL CHRISTINE DEIWERT
RN-122922	KATHLEEN BURTON	RN-122965	WANDA JEAN MCNEESE
RN-122923	KATHRYN ELIZABETH STOCKLAND	RN-122966	DANIELLE M HICKEY
RN-122924	ERIN KENNY	RN-122967	EMILOU GRACE MAALA CLAVERO
RN-122925	ELISABET RAMOS	RN-122968	TANYA NIEMIEC
RN-122926	KAINOA HIROMU MIYAMOTO	RN-122969	CARLA JO WINTER BRYANT
RN-122927	RESITA MONESTIME	RN-122970	KIMBERLEY PATRICE COX-ARCENEUX
RN-122928	DAISY VENCES	RN-122971	LAUREN ELIZABETH SHENKO
RN-122929	JENNIFER JUNE SCOTT	RN-122972	EMILY RENEE ARMSTRONG
RN-122930	ASHLEY LOVER	RN-122973	NANCY BERMILLO JIMENEZ
RN-122931	HIJOSE AMATISTA DE JESÚS SILVEIRA GONZALEZ	RN-122974	ARIELLE CAMILLE STALEY
RN-122932	TIFFANY ALEXANDER	RN-122975	SHEMAYA MELISSA MARCEL
RN-122933	ROCIO LACHNEY	RN-122976	EUNAH SLOCUM
RN-122934	SHAUN CHARLES SPANOS	RN-122977	KRISTINA EMMALYNN BREAKFIELD
RN-122935	RAMON TRINIDAD	RN-122978	NOELLE JOY COLLINS
RN-122936	MICHELLE JOYCE C FRANKLIN	RN-122979	CAROLINE ELIZABETH HAIRFIELD
RN-122937	SARAH HENNINGSSEN	RN-122980	ABIGAIL JOYCE BIGORNIA BARTOLOME
RN-122938	TEYLOR ANNE THORNE	RN-122981	SARAH LUCIA RUSSO
RN-122939	JAMI LEA BRYCE	RN-122982	ALICIA MARIE VAETH
RN-122940	TYNICHELLA BROWN	RN-122983	TERRI A ZELCH
RN-122941	HOLLY LYNN MULLER	RN-122984	KELSEY-ANNE ZIMMERMANN
RN-122942	KJERSTI NELLE COMPTON	RN-122985	CHERRYL CHEN
RN-122943	SHANA AKILA NOEL	RN-122986	VANESA SANTOS
RN-122944	HUNTER D RYLKA	RN-122987	OMOLOLA AKINNODI
RN-122945	ANGELA FERNANDEZ	RN-122988	LINDSAY RENEE KING
RN-122946	JACOB GEORGE LADA	RN-122989	GINA M ADOLPHE
		RN-122990	CHEYENNE NEWLAND

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RN-122991	RAVINDER KAUR	RN-123035	KRISTI NAMUMNART
RN-122992	MANUHA'AIPO MAHEHA NOA	RN-123036	SADIE BRYANT
RN-122993	SAMANTHA JUDITH JOSEPH	RN-123037	CENNY HANA MONTOUR
RN-122994	KIMBERLY ANNE MCGUIRE	RN-123038	JANELLE MASTRIONNI
RN-122995	SKYLAR WEAVER	RN-123039	RILEY BABBIN
RN-122996	ASHLEY LEWIS	RN-123040	RODERICK J WILLIAMS
RN-122997	KATIE LEE	RN-123041	FARYN-ASHLEY EASTERLING
RN-122998	BRITTANY DANIELLE GERARD	RN-123042	PAMELA FITZGERALD HOLZER
RN-122999	EMMA ROSE LUX	RN-123043	CLIVIA JOURDAN
RN-123000	TERRY LEN WEST	RN-123044	RACHEL VAN EE
RN-123001	HYOUNG JA LAVERDA	RN-123045	JULIE ANN SARMIENTO GUEVARRA
RN-123002	TIERNEY LEA SOWELL	RN-123046	RAYMOND SEARLES
RN-123003	KARA MARIE SEVERT	RN-123047	MAYA AMELIA LARSON
RN-123004	SYDNEY TYLER SPENCER	RN-123048	HIRONA GOTO
RN-123005	AMY ELROD FAIRCHILD	RN-123049	BETHANIE AMBER VASQUEZ
RN-123006	BLONDINE DUFRENNE	RN-123050	MARTINE VERNE
RN-123007	DEBORAH MARIE IVERSON	RN-123051	CRYSTAL HOPWOOD CHESTER
RN-123008	NECESSARY SHA'NICE CLARK	RN-123052	NAHOMIE DUCLOS
RN-123009	SAMANTHA CHAVIS-OXENDINE	RN-123053	SARAH BORSICK MAJOY
RN-123010	MORGAN J MCNORTON	RN-123054	MEGHAN ELIZABETH WARD
RN-123011	ELIZABETH GARCIA	RN-123055	LESLIE ANNE LANG
RN-123012	ALAINA HATTER	RN-123056	ALEXIS MARIE ALLEN
RN-123013	ELISSA SCHAFFER	RN-123057	TAYLER JOYCE ANN RENAE FOSTER
RN-123014	SIIRI SOPHIA BRITTON	RN-123058	CYNTHIA LYNN VAN HOUTTE
RN-123015	LILLIAN JOY DOCKSTADER	RN-123059	SHANITA S AUSBORN
RN-123016	MORGAN SCOTT	RN-123060	PORSHIA TOLBERT KING
RN-123017	MEGAN LEANN WELLS	RN-123061	ALYSSA TALIA PASSAFIUME
RN-123018	MIRACLE DAVIS	RN-123062	SUSAN VARGHESE
RN-123019	IVY YEN CHUA	RN-123063	CAILIN TUCKER
RN-123020	MIMI TURRENTINE	RN-123064	VICTORIA COUSAR
RN-123021	ESCARA SUBBA-SAINJU	RN-123065	SCOTTY D CARLYLE
RN-123022	MADISON TANNER	RN-123066	CHELSIE ZACHER
RN-123023	JANELLE MARIE LONG-BLOOMER	RN-123067	MADELINE OLIVIA POPE
RN-123024	PAMELA JOY KING	RN-123068	KRISTI LYNN ZOLMAN
RN-123025	RUTH GETHERS-SIMIL	RN-123069	KRISTEN SHANICE FARLEY
RN-123026	MONETTE PARAN ESPINA	RN-123070	BRITTANI LYNN URBAN
RN-123027	MARY ALICE CURTIS	RN-123071	BROOKE ANN FINLEY
RN-123028	WALTER MANUEL FERNANDEZ	RN-123072	LIZA MARIE CALLUENG
RN-123029	KYLE LUDWAR	RN-123073	VICTORIA OLIVE D'AMATO
RN-123030	MAECHELLE ESPIRITU	RN-123074	JENNIFER M ZIEL
RN-123031	LILI TANG	RN-123075	MARY GRACE SCHULTE
RN-123032	SYDNI RENO	RN-123076	AHMAD M SHUAIBI
RN-123033	HALEY ELIZABETH KIM	RN-123077	ANGEL AUSTINE BILANGO AGLIAM
RN-123034	DANIELLE JORDAN HELM	RN-123078	ANDRE'NIKKA D EVANS

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RN-123079	LILIYA SCHWEMER	RN-123123	CASEY ELLIS
RN-123080	ZACH BROWN	RN-123124	TIFFANY ANN KNEELING
RN-123081	ASHLEY DEBOLT	RN-123125	STEPHANIE ANN PETHTEL
RN-123082	TERESSA LUCILLE CAMPBELL	RN-123126	BERLANDE FERTIL DATUS
RN-123083	CHARMAINE ROSEMARIE WHITE	RN-123127	MARS JOANNA UGALDE LAZARTE
RN-123084	KIMBERLY DAWN HOLTSCRAW	RN-123128	RHONDA E MCNAIR
RN-123085	CANDACE E BLANKENSHIP	RN-123129	ELIZABETH ANNE ROBERTS
RN-123086	MICHAEL DAVID WHITE	RN-123130	LARISSA MARIE KASTORSKY
RN-123087	PAULA THEPSENAVONG	RN-123131	LAKEN RILEY MATTHEWS
RN-123088	ELIZABETH LAVIEVE JEFFERY	RN-123132	CRIMSON L GILLESPIE
RN-123089	TAYSHAY WHITE	RN-123133	NISHEA ANDREA FLORES
RN-123090	KAITLYNN GOULA	RN-123134	SHERIN JACOB
RN-123091	ANSHANETTE TAYLOR	RN-123135	JEANELLE PARKER
RN-123092	ALECA VEIKLEY	RN-123136	MICHELE CHEESEMAN
RN-123093	JOSHUA DAVID DABNEY	RN-123137	CRISTINA JUAREZ ARAUJO
RN-123094	BRENDA GRANADOS LOPEZ	RN-123138	KRYSTLE BLANCHARD
RN-123095	PHOEBE ANN VITU	RN-123139	KAITLYN CROOM
RN-123096	SARAH G MEYER	RN-123140	CYNTHIA DIANE SPILLER
RN-123097	TERRIE LEE VANN WARD	RN-123141	LAUREN TAYLOR ARMSTRONG
RN-123098	SINACHI ANAMDI	RN-123142	MADELINE GOODWIN
RN-123099	TERESA WAHOWE AMBAYO	RN-123143	ALEXA IATAROLA
RN-123100	IRENE CHEMISTO KOLOVICH	RN-123144	KIRBIE BURNETT
RN-123101	NYKIERRA PLOTT-TAYLOR	RN-123145	TAYLOR NICOLE THOMAS
RN-123102	ALINE WEST	RN-123146	CHRISTOPHER LEONARD JAVIER CRUZ
RN-123103	PATRYCJA BOCZEK	RN-123147	DAN MILIEN
RN-123104	LATORA DESUE	RN-123148	SAMANTHA DANIELLA PATRIZI
RN-123105	JESSE LEE KUENZLE	RN-123149	GREGORY ARTHUR PEITZ
RN-123106	JAMIE NICHOLE LUNSFORD	RN-123150	UYEN P TRAN
RN-123107	LISA JANE SIMMONS	RN-123151	NOAH ROYBAL
RN-123108	KACEY VEAZEY	RN-123152	JACQUELINE BARTELS PARSONS
RN-123109	JASMINE WICKS	RN-123153	RENZO N PALIZA VASQUEZ
RN-123110	DWEHE SAYTARKON	RN-123154	KERRY ELIZABETH HANLON
RN-123111	CHELSEA BOWERS	RN-123155	ETHAN TIMM
RN-123112	HANNAH ELSTON	RN-123156	ANTONINETTE FORD
RN-123113	JENSEN ROBERT KENICHI DOI	RN-123157	JENNIFER ABBOTT PARK
RN-123114	FALILAT OLAJUMOKE BAKARE	RN-123158	PAULO CESAR THERIAULT
RN-123115	ANDREA IVANA ROBERTSON	RN-123159	PAIGE SPARKS
RN-123116	GRACE MIDORI YEE	RN-123160	JENNIFER MARIE SABO
RN-123117	JEAN MARIE CHRISTENSEN-RILEY	RN-123161	SYLFICA LEANDRE VALCIN
RN-123118	LASHAY MONIQUE ANDERSON	RN-123162	ELANNE ALINCY JEAN
RN-123119	BRANDY JO CRAWFORD	RN-123163	EMILY CLAIRE AICHELE
RN-123120	RUTH ASHAH	RN-123164	KAYLYN CHRISS
RN-123121	VICTORIA DECKER	RN-123165	MIN DING
RN-123122	KARA DAVIDSON	RN-123166	STEPHANIE HANSEN

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RN-123167	JENNIFER ANN MARTIN	RN-123210	ANGELA CANTRELL MOORE
RN-123168	DANIEL MOOSAVI	RN-123211	ALLIE JEAN SHANNON
RN-123169	LAUREN CAROL WILLDEBOER	RN-123212	JUAN DANIEL VELA
RN-123170	ELLI MARIE REID	RN-123213	MIRANDA LYN HARDEN
RN-123171	DEIDRA ANN RODGERS	RN-123214	JANET BLACKSTON
RN-123172	RONALD TOROY DAVID	RN-123215	ANNALISA ROSE HOOPER
RN-123173	YAHIRA JAEN	RN-123216	KOURTNEY MCLENDON
RN-123174	AMANDA MARIE BAUGH	RN-123217	JINA YOO
RN-123175	JANA GOLDEN	RN-123218	JHEYON JHADE BRADY
RN-123176	PAMELA ELECTUS GREEN	RN-123219	BELLE-ISHA BRUNO
RN-123177	RAHSHEEDAH BROWN	RN-123220	KIERA CRAFT
RN-123178	FARRAH ASHLEY ABERGEL	RN-123221	KRISTIN COTTER
RN-123179	MADDISON ROSE PREVOST	RN-123222	EMILY PREBECK
RN-123180	WENDY CHANDLER COLLINS	RN-123223	STEPHANIE SARAZINE
RN-123181	COURTNEY MAYHEW	RN-123224	SABRINA BOOTH
RN-123182	VERONICA MORRIS	RN-123225	VALERIE S GARCIA
RN-123183	SARA MATESSINO	RN-123226	ALEXA MADISON MITCHELL
RN-123184	NINA FRANCIS JEWELL	RN-123227	DIANNA LYNN GRUBER
RN-123185	GIFTY NTIAMOAH	RN-123228	SAKINA HAJJAH ANDERSON
RN-123186	ANDREW JOSEPH HEWITT	RN-123229	MONIQUE VALLE GONZALEZ
RN-123187	ALEAHA RHOOMES	RN-123230	LAUREN QUINN RYNIK
RN-123188	KIMBERLY OCHINANG	RN-123231	ALICE ANUNDA
RN-123189	JOYCELYNN HARRIS	RN-123232	JULIAN CHRISTIAN SAMSON
RN-123190	ANGELICA VIVIAN BACLIG SONIDO	RN-123233	CARINE ST PIERRE
RN-123191	ANUHEAONALANI KYLEIGH-ANN RAMOS	RN-123234	TEHANI KAHALEKAI HAMANO
RN-123192	MICHAEL NOZARES	RN-123235	MADILYN GRACE WHITE
RN-123193	NIKKI MAKANAMAICALANI KATAHARA-TOM	RN-123236	DIOSA ULERIO LORENZO
RN-123194	DIANA WU CHIA	RN-123237	EMELLY ROSE TAWAKE
RN-123195	DANIELE MARIE BROCCINI	RN-123238	QUENTIN THOMAS
RN-123196	LAWRENCE ST CROIX	RN-123239	SYDNEY MARIE HAACK
RN-123197	MARTA JASINSKI	RN-123240	DEBORAH KAY BLAND
RN-123198	MARIE N ANDRE	RN-123241	JENNIFER A HILL
RN-123199	KERRI CALDWELL	RN-123242	JOSE MARIA LANTIGUA VENTURA
RN-123200	ZELDA THOMAS	RN-123243	AALIYAH ANGELICAH DAVIS
RN-123201	KAILA REED	RN-123244	DANIELLE MARINELARENA
RN-123202	PAIGE CHRISTINE PUGH	RN-123245	ANNE ELISE GARCIA
RN-123203	LEAH ANN RUPERT	RN-123246	MICHELLE RENEE BOUDREAUX
RN-123204	KEELY SUANN VRSALOVICH	RN-123247	CLAUDEA KUYKENDALL
RN-123205	ELIZABETH WELTIN	RN-123248	KIERRA NICOLE GREEN
RN-123206	LALAINESQUIVEL	RN-123249	TIMOTHY O'CONNELL
RN-123207	JESSICA CHRISTINE LLEWELLYN	RN-123250	JESSICA B GIANGRANDE
RN-123208	CHAINNEL SIMPSON	RN-123251	ANN JANICE ORNIDO
RN-123209	TIARA CARTER	RN-123252	MODESTO BALBERAN
		RN-123253	ALJONE NEBRES

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RN-123254	ABDULSALAM ADELEKE	RN-123298	HOLLY GROFF
RN-123255	NATALIE KAY MYERS	RN-123299	EMILY JENKINS
RN-123256	HEATHER RENEE SOUTHE	RN-123300	BRENDA KAY LOMAS-I LADIONG
RN-123257	KRISTY HISER MILLER	RN-123301	NICOLE LYNN SWEGLE
RN-123258	ELIZABETH KAMONI	RN-123302	MEGAN SIERRA DHALIWAL
RN-123259	MIKA GIADA DUROPAN MANDING	RN-123303	JUAN HENAO OLIVARES
RN-123260	NATALIE VELAZQUEZ	RN-123304	JOHN CRUZ ORTIZ
RN-123261	ANNE LAMAR	RN-123305	EMILY AUTUMN KAYE
RN-123262	JOHN PAUL CHIONG	RN-123306	JARED DEION GLOSSER
RN-123263	INXS MICHELLE FIODEMBO	RN-123307	JOYCELYN MERLE WHARTON
RN-123264	KELSIE MAYNARD	RN-123308	BRIONNA BLOCKER
RN-123265	ELIZABETH ANNE DYER	RN-123309	ANNA AGNALT
RN-123266	PATRICIA DOREEN MARSHALL HOHN	RN-123310	SHANNON MARIE WOISNET
RN-123267	ADWOA A ABOAGYE	RN-123311	ELLEN B KAUFMANN
RN-123268	ELIZABETH CRIMM	RN-123312	KATHERINE BLAIRE JENSON
RN-123269	TANISHA CHERICE DALEY	RN-123313	JODISIA SELLERS
RN-123270	JENNIFER LYNN BIFFLE	RN-123314	MESADA MAY ANDERSON
RN-123271	LESLIE LYNN HADVANCE	RN-123315	DENISSE STEFANY CRUZ-MOLINA
RN-123272	MAIMA DABALUS GUZMAN	RN-123316	ALEXA PHAM LUU
RN-123273	LEANN GOOD	RN-123317	DENESHIA BROWN
RN-123274	AMY POCHAPSKY	RN-123318	KRISTEN GIPPER
RN-123275	BRYCE ALDWORTH RANDALL	RN-123319	RHEA AGREGADO DALERE
RN-123276	PRINCESSA EURICE DAIZ TOBIAS	RN-123320	MELISSA PAULINE DECOOK
RN-123277	KRYSTLE LEINA'ALA LUM	RN-123321	VERONICA NICOLE BURTON
RN-123278	MONIQUE JEAN-LOUIS	RN-123322	KHAYA KAMEA'I'OMAKAMAE BUNAO
RN-123279	KELLY ANN BENTON	RN-123323	MARIA KUHN
RN-123280	JENNIFER HARGIS	RN-123324	ORLI GAL
RN-123281	SAMANTHA MARTINEZ	RN-123325	BRANDON FERNANDES
RN-123282	CONNIE JEAN PILOT	RN-123326	LILLY NOONE
RN-123283	STEPHANIE JOIE ASERON PORLUCAS	RN-123327	CORINA TRICH SANCHEZ
RN-123284	ALUNDA DANYEL PRICE	RN-123328	RYAN FLAHERTY
RN-123285	KAITLYNN CRAIG KNEBEL	RN-123329	KATHLEEN ELIZABETH STRAUSBAUGH
RN-123286	TEHNIAT KHALID	RN-123330	ALEAH MONIQUE JONES
RN-123287	RAJVI D JINWALA	RN-123331	LANI GROCHOWSKI
RN-123288	ADARIA RASHAWN MILLER	RN-123332	EMILY ROSE WHITAKER
RN-123289	AMELIA CHRISTINE DORMAN	RN-123333	JILL RENEE WARD
RN-123290	JUSTIN DAVID VANCE	RN-123334	KATHERINE KASUGA
RN-123291	JOHN MICHAEL YANG	RN-123335	KATIE SWYKAK
RN-123292	JESSICA LE	RN-123336	EMMA KRAUS
RN-123293	ASHLEY MARIE PELAEZ	RN-123337	JESSICA JOSMARY RINCON RODRIGUEZ
RN-123294	KRISTEN L CANNON	RN-123338	MELESHA GREEN-FREDRICK
RN-123295	CONNIE BRUCH-HARRISON	RN-123339	SHERYL WERTZ
RN-123296	PAMELA MARIE PETERSEN	RN-123340	ANA CARLA PENA
RN-123297	LUSE FRANCES LUMAS	RN-123341	GRETCHEN NICOLE NEAL

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RN-123342	MADISON GRACE KRUG	RN-123386	EVA DENISSE GONZALEZ
RN-123343	ALEXANDRA ORTIZ KO	RN-123387	MONICA TENNILE COLE
RN-123344	BELKIS JOHANA WILSON	RN-123388	GEORGIA ROSE MOLLDREM
RN-123345	REBECCA QUINN KIRKWOOD	RN-123389	MCCALL ELIZABETH LEWIS
RN-123346	SHANTELL PAXTON	RN-123390	MARIAH SANCHEZ
RN-123347	CHELSEA ZINSSER	RN-123391	MELLISA DEANDRADE
RN-123348	FELICIA JOHNSTON	RN-123392	TAMIRA OUTLAW
RN-123349	ALLEN PULSIRISAROTH	RN-123393	INGRID BESSARD
RN-123350	HEATHER JEANETTE MIZE	RN-123394	WENDY JOY DAHMEN
RN-123351	ALIZA FRANKEL	RN-123395	NAKONA KELI WOLFE
RN-123352	MICHELLE RACHEL LE	RN-123396	NOEMI MAYO
RN-123353	LAUREN CLAIRE KASER	RN-123397	SHAVON JOHNNIE
RN-123354	JACQUELYN ANN TOLLETT	RN-123398	ALISON MARIE CANTO
RN-123355	MARY KATHERINE GORMLEY	RN-123399	JANIYA DAVIS
RN-123356	REESHEMAH BURGESS	RN-123400	CATHERINE MICHELLE CHAPPELL
RN-123357	OLUWATOYIN SOWUNMI	RN-123401	CHENITA KENDRICK
RN-123358	AMY ELIZABETH GAINES	RN-123402	ASHLEY MICHELKAMP
RN-123359	COURTNEY LEA TRUAX	RN-123403	JOSETTE ABEYTA
RN-123360	YOLANDA EVETTE PUGH	RN-123404	ALYSSA MARIE ROMEO
RN-123361	MIARKA FELICIA AGUILA	RN-123405	JUSTYNA JOHNSON
RN-123362	TROY RANA EUSALA	RN-123406	ANGELA FITE
RN-123363	BRENDA-YARELY GARZA	RN-123407	VERONICA MONIQUE WEATHERSPOON
RN-123364	KAYLA MARIE DAUGHERTY	RN-123408	PAMELA ROTIMI ABINA
RN-123365	SHAPHECA LYNNETTE LAKE	RN-123409	LAUREN COOK
RN-123366	PEATRIAN SAMUELS	RN-123410	AMBER SHANNAY MIRIAM KING
RN-123367	BEATRICE CHARLES	RN-123411	SARAH ELIZABETH BIBLE
RN-123368	JOMARY SANTIAGO ILLAS	RN-123412	KATHLEEN FLEURY
RN-123369	FELICIA ANITA KELLUM	RN-123413	SAVANNA RANGER
RN-123370	BRIGID BARTON	RN-123414	SUZANNE G HISHMEH
RN-123371	LAVONDA CYPRESS	RN-123415	DAUN MICHELE DESJARLAIS
RN-123372	BRITTANY SCHWARTZ-JUSKIEWICZ	RN-123416	SHERMETT V BENNETT
RN-123373	DEBORAH LENORE KIND	RN-123417	HAILLE MARIANNE BIELER
RN-123374	BRIANNA SMITH	RN-123418	CYNTHIA ANN RUIZ
RN-123375	ADITI POUDEL	RN-123419	DARLENE GARRARD LONG
RN-123376	JANIQUE MYNOT	RN-123420	ELISHA ANNE CLARK
RN-123377	ADERONKE BALOGUN	RN-123421	MOIRA GONZALEZ
RN-123378	DARRIN LEROY WILSON	RN-123422	THAMARA LEBLANC
RN-123379	MARKEIA LATRICE JOHNSON	RN-123423	VENESSA CAMILLE CESAR
RN-123380	MARIAM SAKHA	RN-123424	ROSELENE DELER
RN-123381	OLIVIA BLACK	RN-123425	ANDREA PRATTS BAUDINET
RN-123382	ASHLEY NICOLE SMITH	RN-123426	MARCUS D BRYAN
RN-123383	SONJA WHORLEY FLOOD	RN-123427	CHRISTELA TOUT-PUISSANT
RN-123384	HILARY JADE NELSON	RN-123428	JUSHUNTA STEPHENS
RN-123385	ELENA DENIA NORADIN	RN-123429	CHIYUAN CHEN



**Board of Nursing – Ratification List  
February 6, 2025**

RN-123430	ZOE FRASSETTO	RN-123474	JAZMIN MARLIKA LOVINA ALLEN
RN-123431	JEANETTE JUDAH MARDY PARKS	RN-123475	NELLYROSE AKANNI HEMPHILL
RN-123432	SHELBY P KURT	RN-123476	JANELLE MARIE WUTHRICH
RN-123433	LASHARIAH BLACK	RN-123477	LIEZL CALUZA SALTING
RN-123434	AMANDA SHEA MCNEAL	RN-123478	GLADYS MARIE THOMPSON
RN-123435	SHIRLEY LAVETTE HARRIS	RN-123479	HAILEY RENEE YATES
RN-123436	SILVANA ALVES ROOT	RN-123480	KORTNEY FLAKER
RN-123437	ARYANNE GEL DAMASO DOMINGO	RN-123481	JENNIFER MARIA NAVARRO VELAZCO
RN-123438	PETER ARBOLEDA	RN-123482	KRISTINA WHEELER
RN-123439	BETHANEE KAANELA MAHIE HANAIKE	RN-123483	CALVIN LEON HARVEY JR
RN-123440	DIANE OLEA-DEL RIO	RN-123484	FANIKA SHUNTAE CRUMB
RN-123441	NICOLETTE MCCLEES	RN-123485	ANGELIQUE MIRANDA
RN-123442	JENNIFER ABEYTA	RN-123486	LEAH QUIDILLA
RN-123443	RACHEL LEHUA CAPETILLO	RN-123487	ESTHER JULES
RN-123444	TERESA AFFRONTI	RN-123488	VANCE MIYAMOTO
RN-123445	DANA FLETCHER	RN-123489	XAVIER MALDONADO
RN-123446	JOSHUA STOTLER	RN-123490	JESSICA HANDY
RN-123447	BROOKE ALEXIS CAGLE		
RN-123448	CARLY ROSE SZADA		
RN-123449	CAITLIN OPIRHORY		
RN-123450	MELISSA OLIN		
RN-123451	MARIA A MOGOLLON		
RN-123452	DIANNA CHAN		
RN-123453	KINSEY VICTORIA LUNDIN		
RN-123454	LUIS ALBERTO VIDANA		
RN-123455	STEPHANIE BOURNE MCKITHAN		
RN-123456	DANA LISKOVA		
RN-123457	VANESSA EDOUARD CLERVIL		
RN-123458	KIRRELL RAPADAS-CHUN		
RN-123459	ADORIA NAOMI TERADA LEE		
RN-123460	CHELSEY DURR		
RN-123461	HALEY ODONNELL		
RN-123462	MISHELL ROMINA ALMINA		
RN-123463	NATALYA PULASKI		
RN-123464	TSIPORA BLOCH		
RN-123465	JERRECIA JACKSON		
RN-123466	TONI MAE ASTILLA		
RN-123467	KATHERINE MEEKS		
RN-123468	JOSELIN BARAJAS		
RN-123469	CLARK LOUIE JUGO MACAPAGAL		
RN-123470	RICHARD PERCY RIDEN		
RN-123471	TYSHA T CANLEY		
RN-123472	YADIRA GONZALEZ MORRIS		
RN-123473	EMILY GRACE SPENDLOVE		

**Board of Nursing – Ratification List  
February 6, 2025**

ADVANCED PRACTICE REGISTERED NURSES

RATIFICATION LIST

FEBRUARY 6, 2024

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National Certification

APRN ONLY:

APRN-4932	EUNICE O AUGUSTUS	FAMILY NURSE PRACTITIONER
APRN-4933	TNEECIA L APPLEWHITE	FAMILY NURSE PRACTITIONER
APRN-4939	ELEANOR G QUINN-ZAAL	FAMILY NURSE PRACTITIONER
APRN-4942	MACKENZIE RAE WEILAND	WOMEN'S HEALTH CARE NURSE PRACTITIONER
APRN-4946	JOSEPH K SHIN	FAMILY NURSE PRACTITIONER
APRN-4950	KORY J BRIMMER	NURSE ANESTHETISTS
APRN-4952	CATHERINE LEE SINCLAIR	ADULT NURSE PRACTITIONER
APRN-4956	JOAN R ASUNCION	NEO-NATAL NURSE PRACTITIONER
APRN-4965	LAURA LYNN FERREIRA	FAMILY NURSE PRACTITIONER
APRN-4969	MARY RENEE WALTERS	FAMILY NURSE PRACTITIONER
APRN-4976	GWEN CHERYL PEAD	FAMILY NURSE PRACTITIONER
APRN-4979	KAEDI FEHLBERG	FAMILY NURSE PRACTITIONER
APRN-4983	JODI MOONBEAM OLDFATHER	NURSE ANESTHETISTS
APRN-4986	RACHEL LEIGH MITCHELL	FAMILY NURSE PRACTITIONER
APRN-4991	ELEASE K KIM	NURSE ANESTHETISTS
APRN-5000	JOYCELYNN HARRIS	FAMILY NURSE PRACTITIONER
APRN-5012	KIMBERLY DAWN HOLTSCRAW	FAMILY NURSE PRACTITIONER
APRN-5013	KERRI CALDWELL	FAMILY NURSE PRACTITIONER
APRN-5015	NISHEA ANDREA FLORES	FAMILY NURSE PRACTITIONER
APRN-5020	OMOLOLA AKINNODI	PSYCHIATRIC MENTAL HEALTH NURSE PRACTITIONER
APRN-5022	ANDREA SKINNER	NURSE ANESTHETISTS
APRN-5023	CYNTHIA ANN RUIZ	FAMILY NURSE PRACTITIONER
APRN-5024	PAIGE SPARKS	FAMILY NURSE PRACTITIONER
APRN-5025	DARLENE GARRARD LONG	ADULT NURSE PRACTITIONER
APRN-5026	TERESA AFFRONTI	FAMILY NURSE PRACTITIONER

APRN W/PRESCRIPTIVE AUTHORITY:

APRN-4934	MIKI CAMPBELL	PSYCHIATRIC MENTAL HEALTH NURSE PRACTITIONER
APRN-4935	KENZIE R LOVINGOOD	FAMILY NURSE PRACTITIONER
APRN-4936	JUN LYNARD TOMAS TUGAS	FAMILY NURSE PRACTITIONER
APRN-4937	STEFANIE FATEMEH BARR	FAMILY NURSE PRACTITIONER
APRN-4938	AMY M ELLISON	FAMILY NURSE PRACTITIONER
APRN-4940	KIMBERLY MOORE	FAMILY NURSE PRACTITIONER

**Board of Nursing – Ratification List  
February 6, 2025**

APRN-4941	MICHAEL TEE TAN	FAMILY NURSE PRACTITIONER
APRN-4943	JOLENE ALEXANDRA GALAVIZ	FAMILY NURSE PRACTITIONER
APRN-4944	CAROLINE HUI-QING YU	ADULT-GERONTOLOGY ACUTE CARE NURSE PRACTITIONER
APRN-4945	TAMMY LEE CRAYTON	FAMILY NURSE PRACTITIONER
APRN-4947	KANG CHUN LU	FAMILY NURSE PRACTITIONER
APRN-4948	DAWN FITZGERALD	FAMILY NURSE PRACTITIONER
APRN-4949	ESTRELLA L GUERRERO	FAMILY NURSE PRACTITIONER
APRN-4951	AMBERLEE MONTARELLA	FAMILY NURSE PRACTITIONER
APRN-4953	SIBYL TENILLE PAGE	FAMILY NURSE PRACTITIONER
APRN-4954	KAITLIN AGUIRRE	FAMILY NURSE PRACTITIONER
APRN-4955	TATIANA MARIA ARCE	FAMILY NURSE PRACTITIONER
APRN-4957	JENNIFER REBECCA MILLER	FAMILY NURSE PRACTITIONER, PSYCHIATRIC MENTAL HEALTH NURSE PRACTITIONER
APRN-4958	ANDREA LYNNE WORLEY	FAMILY NURSE PRACTITIONER
APRN-4959	MARTI LIRANZA CASIN	FAMILY NURSE PRACTITIONER
APRN-4960	YUAN YAO	FAMILY NURSE PRACTITIONER
APRN-4961	HANNAH ELIZABETH TOLAR	FAMILY NURSE PRACTITIONER
APRN-4962	SUZANNE MARIE REICHERT	ADULT-GERONTOLOGICAL NURSE PRACTITIONER
APRN-4963	BOBBIE-JEAN CRIVELLO	FAMILY NURSE PRACTITIONER
APRN-4964	RACHEL DIANE PAHUKOA-MALIA	FAMILY NURSE PRACTITIONER
APRN-4966	LAURA MIHAELA ROSS	PSYCHIATRIC MENTAL HEALTH NURSE PRACTITIONER
APRN-4967	JANA M POMEROY	FAMILY NURSE PRACTITIONER
APRN-4968	JULIE A AGNO	PSYCHIATRIC MENTAL HEALTH NURSE PRACTITIONER
APRN-4970	CHRISTINA NANCY BRADDOCK	FAMILY NURSE PRACTITIONER
APRN-4971	SUSANA GUZMAN	FAMILY NURSE PRACTITIONER
APRN-4972	KYLIE S LEEK	FAMILY NURSE PRACTITIONER
APRN-4973	TIFFANY ALEXANDER	FAMILY NURSE PRACTITIONER
APRN-4974	SHAUN CHARLES SPANOS	PSYCHIATRIC MENTAL HEALTH NURSE PRACTITIONER
APRN-4975	SHAYNE N O PHILLIPS	FAMILY NURSE PRACTITIONER
APRN-4977	CARMELLI ROCSAN DELA CRUZ AGDEPPA	FAMILY NURSE PRACTITIONER
APRN-4978	HAZEL-LYN PERALTA JARQUIO	FAMILY NURSE PRACTITIONER
APRN-4980	ANGELA FERNANDEZ	FAMILY NURSE PRACTITIONER
APRN-4981	SOKCHEAR S SOUS-FIGUEROA	PSYCHIATRIC MENTAL HEALTH NURSE PRACTITIONER
APRN-4982	SHANA AKILA NOEL	ADULT-GERONTOLOGICAL NURSE PRACTITIONER
APRN-4984	IVY YEN CHUA	FAMILY NURSE PRACTITIONER
APRN-4985	RODERICK J WILLIAMS	PSYCHIATRIC MENTAL HEALTH NURSE PRACTITIONER
APRN-4987	SARAH BORSICK MAJOY	FAMILY NURSE PRACTITIONER
APRN-4988	DAVID NG	FAMILY NURSE PRACTITIONER
APRN-4989	SHANITA S AUSBORN	FAMILY NURSE PRACTITIONER
APRN-4990	KRISTI LYNN ZOLMAN	FAMILY NURSE PRACTITIONER

**Board of Nursing – Ratification List  
February 6, 2025**

APRN-4992	HOLLY CRESSWELL LUNSFORD	FAMILY NURSE PRACTITIONER
APRN-4993	LILIAN M TAKIZAWA	ADULT-GERONTOLOGICAL NURSE PRACTITIONER
APRN-4994	LILI TANG	PSYCHIATRIC MENTAL HEALTH NURSE PRACTITIONER
APRN-4995	SHERYL J DOBSON WAINWRIGHT	FAMILY NURSE PRACTITIONER
APRN-4996	DEVON D SHARKEY	ADULT-GERONTOLOGICAL NURSE PRACTITIONER
APRN-4997	KATHRINE THOMAS RANKIE	FAMILY NURSE PRACTITIONER
APRN-4998	RAYMOND SEARLES	PSYCHIATRIC MENTAL HEALTH NURSE PRACTITIONER
APRN-4999	JENNIFER ANN MARTIN	FAMILY NURSE PRACTITIONER
APRN-5001	ELYSSA MARIE KLOKHAMMER	CERTIFIED NURSE MIDWIVES
APRN-5002	ABIGAIL ADAIR YOUNGER	WOMEN'S HEALTH CARE NURSE PRACTITIONER
APRN-5003	STACEY FRANCES HARDEN	FAMILY NURSE PRACTITIONER
APRN-5004	RAZEL B ALIBIN	FAMILY NURSE PRACTITIONER
APRN-5005	JERRICA SCHELHORN	NURSE ANESTHETISTS
APRN-5006	KEELY SUANN VRSALOVICH	FAMILY NURSE PRACTITIONER
APRN-5007	ANGELINA DINGLE CABUSAS	PSYCHIATRIC MENTAL HEALTH NURSE PRACTITIONER
APRN-5008	SARA SACHIE SOPELSA	FAMILY NURSE PRACTITIONER
APRN-5009	JESSICA LORRAINE ISNETTO	FAMILY NURSE PRACTITIONER
APRN-5010	KRISTEN ROSE HIATT	FAMILY NURSE PRACTITIONER
APRN-5011	MELODY T DOMINGO	FAMILY NURSE PRACTITIONER
APRN-5014	FAITH S G DELUNA CONCEPCION	NURSE ANESTHETISTS
APRN-5016	INXS MICHELLE FIODEMBO	FAMILY NURSE PRACTITIONER
APRN-5017	GRACE MIDORI YEE	FAMILY NURSE PRACTITIONER
APRN-5018	MOLLY WOLVERTON	FAMILY NURSE PRACTITIONER
APRN-5019	EVA DENISSE GONZALEZ	FAMILY NURSE PRACTITIONER
APRN-5021	ELISHA ANNE CLARK	FAMILY NURSE PRACTITIONER
APRN-5027	ALIZA FRANKEL	FAMILY NURSE PRACTITIONER
APRN-5028	MARIA A MOGOLLON	FAMILY NURSE PRACTITIONER
APRN-5029	ERIN TAYLOR RENSHAW	FAMILY NURSE PRACTITIONER

**BOARD OF NURSING**  
Professional and Vocational Licensing Division  
Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs  
State of Hawaii

MINUTES OF MEETING

Date: Thursday, December 5, 2024

Time: 9:00 a.m.

In-Person Meeting Location: Queen Liliuokalani Conference Room  
HRH King Kalakaua Building, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor  
335 Merchant Street  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Virtual: Virtual Videoconference Meeting – Zoom Meeting (use link below)  
<https://dcca-hawaii.gov.zoom.us/j/81358631010?pwd=IlCiNpqavaw8t93JHPo6CbJwwjSmza.1>

Recording Link: <https://youtu.be/hCahvhtE41U?si=60Y8g8UbbYoyYgno>

Agenda: The agenda was posted on the State electronic calendar as required by HRS section 92-7(b).

Members Present: Carrie Oliveira, Chair  
Diana Jill Riggs, RN, MSN, Vice Chair  
Karen Boyer, RN, MS, FNP  
Bradley Kuo, DNP, APRN, FNP-BC, CARN-AP, PMHNP  
Rebecca Moore, RN  
Terrence Aratani, Public Member

Members Excused: Sheri Shields-Hanson, MSN, RN

Staff Present: Chelsea Fukunaga, Executive Officer (“EO Fukunaga”)  
Alexander Pang, Executive Officer (“EO Pang”)  
Shari Wong, Deputy Attorney General (“DAG Wong”)  
Marc Yoshimura, Secretary (“Staff”)

Guests: Laura Reichhardt, Executive Director,  
Hawai'i State Center for Nursing  
Elizabeth Kahakua, Hawai'i-American Nurses Association  
Gwen Kreitzman  
Cathy  
JG

ItsSarahs'lphoneTho

Virtual Meeting Instructions:

A short video regarding virtual meetings was played for attendees. The Chair provided information on internet and phone access for today's virtual meeting and announced that today's meeting was being recorded and that the recording will be posted on the Board's web page.

Call to Order:

The Chair took roll call of the Board members, noting that Ms. Shields-Hanson was excused.

In accordance with Act 220, SLH 2021, all Board members attending virtually confirmed that they were alone in their nonpublic location.

After taking roll, quorum was established, and the meeting was called to order at 9:06 a.m.

Chair's Report:

The Chair had no report or announcements.

Approval of Minutes:

**Approval of the Open and Executive Session Minutes of the November 7, 2024 Meeting and the Executive Session Minutes of the August 1 and September 5, 2024 Meetings**

Upon a motion by Ms. Boyer, seconded by Mr. Aratani, it was voted on and unanimously carried to approve the open and executive session minutes of the November 7, 2024 meeting and the executive session minutes of the August 1 and September 5, 2024 meetings.

Executive Officer's Report:

**Attendance at NCSBN Mid-Year and Annual Meetings in 2025**

EO Pang stated Ms. Boyer attended the prior mid-year meeting, while the Chair and EO Pang attended the prior annual meeting. Next year's mid-year meeting will be from March 11-13, 2025 in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, while the dates for the annual meeting will be announced.

Mr. Kuo and Mr. Aratani expressed interest in attending the annual meeting.

Ms. Moore expressed interest in attending the mid-year meeting.

**Application Delegation to Board Member**

EO Pang stated the intent is to delegate a Board member to review applications outside of Board meetings. Guidance regarding delegated applications was provided in the Board packet, including additional convictions, disciplinary actions and medical malpractice settlements, outside of the delegations that were assigned to the Executive Officers in 2021.

EO Pang gave some examples of delegated applications: convictions such as disturbing the peace, harassment, and disorderly conduct; two or more DUI convictions both over five years old; possession of marijuana, theft, larceny or shoplifting conviction over five years old; disciplinary actions based on a conviction that the Board already has delegation for; disciplinary actions where the applicant met all terms of the discipline over ten years ago; applicant was disciplined by one jurisdiction for a delegated reason.

EO Fukunaga included that the delegated Board member would have the option of bringing the application back to the Board if they feel uncomfortable with making a decision on the application/s. She also assured that volunteers would be given time to perform a complete and thorough review.

The Chair asked how often applications would be provided for review and the turnaround time.

EO Fukunaga indicated weekly or every two weeks depending on the workload of the Executive Officers to address the applications, with a preferred turnaround time of one week.

The following Board members volunteered as follows:

- Mr. Kuo to review APRN applications;
- The Chair to review RN applications; and,
- The Vice Chair to review LPN applications.

Upon a motion by the Chair, seconded by Mr. Aratani, it was voted on and unanimously carried to delegate authority of reviewing and the subsequent processing of applications between Board meetings to the Chair (RN applications), the Vice Chair (LPN applications), and Mr. Kuo (APRN applications).

### **2025 Board of Nursing Meeting Schedule**

EO Pang stated that the 2025 Board meeting schedule was provided in the meeting packet and is also posted to the Board's website.

*The Chair stated that agenda item 7. **Chapter 91, HRS – Adjudicatory Matters** will be taken out of order and discussed next.*

Chapter 91, HRS  
Adjudicatory  
Matters

The Chair called for a recess from the meeting at 9:15 a.m., to discuss and deliberate on the following adjudicatory matters pursuant to Chapter 91, HRS (Note: Board members and staff enter a Zoom Breakout Room).

The Chair proceeded with a roll call of the Board members in the Zoom Breakout Room. All Board members confirmed that they were present and alone.

In the Matter of the License to Practice Nursing of Bernadette Regina, RNS 2021-388-L; Board's Final Order; Exhibits 1-2

After due consideration of the information received, it was moved by the Chair, seconded by Ms. Boyer, and unanimously carried, to approve the aforementioned Board's Final Order.

In the Matter of the Application for a Nursing License of Tamika Nicholson, RNS-LIC-2024-005; Hearings Officer's Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, and Recommended Order

After due consideration of the information received, it was moved by the Chair, seconded by Mr. Kuo, and unanimously carried, to approve the aforementioned Hearings Officer's Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, and Recommended Order.

Following the Board's review, deliberation, and decision on these matters pursuant to Chapter 91, HRS, the Chair announced that the Board reconvened to open session at 9:31 a.m.

*The Chair stated that the Board will continue the Board meeting by returning to the order indicated on the agenda.*

Reports:

**Hawaii State Center for Nursing – Laura Reichhardt, Executive Director**

Ms. Reichhardt reported:

- Recent Nursing Scientific Symposium was a huge success



- Currently working to host another scientific symposium in February of 2026
- Working on the nursing workforce projections and expect the final document to be available in February, March of 2025
- Continue to work on nurse residency programs and clinical placement initiatives
- Announced a brand new continuing nursing education platform yesterday in their newsletter which will be easier for nurses to engage in the center's continuing nursing education activities
  - They aim to allow their activities to be provided at no cost, and to allow high quality nursing education credits required for re-licensure

### **Hawaii American Nurses Association – Elizabeth Kahakua**

Ms. Kahakua reported:

- HANA generally supports nurse practitioners to practice to their full licensing potential and are working to address this, which will be discussed at a Leadership Summit next week
  - This is in response to Mr. Kuo's inquiry at last month's Board meeting regarding the APRN Compact supporting nurses to practice at the top of their scope
- Signed some items to try and fast track some bills, such as a bill related to CMs regarding the long-term staffing rule
- Continue to prep for opening day of the Legislative session. They will be meeting with OPEIU leadership today to discuss projected bills
- Proud to be sponsoring the State of Reform Health Policy Conference on January 14, 2025, at the Convention Center
  - Kara Gourmand will be the guest speaker who will be speaking on the panel of growing and sustaining Hawaii's healthcare workforce
- Currently have 466 members with hopes to gain more in 2025
- Tracking - Nurse Preceptor Tax Bills, APRN Compact, Workplace violence, Continuing Education requirements about Alzheimer's for some professions, Medicaid reimbursement fees, HELP Repayment Program

Mr. Kuo asked what is ANA's position on the APRN Compact.

Ms. Kahakua replied that ANA is currently reaching out to all the chapters; the APRN Compact will be a topic of discussion at the Leadership Summit in December. It appears that they are in

support of the compact, because they support nurses practicing at the top of their scope. She stated that she will report on this at the January meeting.

**Hawaii Association of Professional Nurses –  
Jeremy Creekmore**

No report was provided.

Executive  
Session:

The Chair motioned to move into executive session in accordance with HRS §92-4 and 92-5(a)(1) and (4) “To consider and evaluate personal information relating to individuals applying for professional or vocational cited in section 29-6 or both;” and “To consult with the Board’s attorney on questions and issues pertaining to the Board’s powers, duties, privileges, immunities, and liabilities;”.

It was seconded by Mr. Kuo, voted on and unanimously carried to move into executive session at 9:38 a.m.

Upon a motion the Chair, seconded by the Vice Chair, it was voted on and unanimously carried to move out of executive session at 10:35 a.m.

Applications:

**Ratification Lists**

Upon a motion by the Chair, seconded by Mr. Kuo, it was voted on and unanimously carried to approve the following ratification lists:

LPNs, license numbers 21217 - 21241  
RNs, license number 122216 - 122609; and  
APRNs and APRNs with prescriptive authority

**Applications**

The Chair called for a motion regarding the applications.

Licensed Practical Nurse

Upon a motion by the Vice Chair, seconded by Mr. Kuo, it was voted on and unanimously carried to approve the following application with conditions pursuant to HRS §436B-19(1):

**Melanie Lopez**

Registered Nurses

Upon a motion by the Vice Chair, seconded by Ms. Boyer, it was voted on and unanimously carried to approve the following applications:

**Quentina Andrus**  
**Sabrina Eaton**  
**Sarah Graves**  
**Amberlee Montarella**  
**Catherine Page**  
**Krasimira Bakardjieva**  
**Sandra Cardozo**

Upon a motion by the Chair, seconded by the Vice Chair, it was voted on and unanimously carried to approve the following application with conditions pursuant to HRS §436B-19(1) and 457-7(b)(2):

**Gwen Kreitzman**

The Chair stated the following application was deferred pursuant to HRS §457-7(b)(2):

**Shana McDade**

Advanced Practice Registered Nurse

Upon a motion by the Vice Chair, seconded by Ms. Boyer, it was voted on and unanimously carried to approve the following application:

**Amberlee Montarella**

Next Meeting:      Date:            Thursday, February 6, 2024  
                                 Time:            9:00 a.m.  
                                 In-Person:    Queen Liliuokalani Conference Room  
                                                    King Kalakaua Building, 1st Floor  
                                                    335 Merchant Street  
                                                    Honolulu, Hawaii 96813  
                                 Virtual:        Zoom Meeting

Adjournment:      The meeting was adjourned at 10:39 a.m.

Taken by:

Reviewed by:

/s/ Marc Yoshimura  
Marc Yoshimura  
Administrative Assistant

/s/ Alexander Pang  
Alexander Pang  
Executive Officer

Minutes approved as is.

Minutes approved with changes; see minutes of \_\_\_\_\_

12/31/24

DRAFT

**Board of Nursing – Ratification List  
December 5, 2024**

**Licensed Practical Nurses (LPN)**

LPN-21217	ANABEL CISNEROS	LPN-21231	DAWN MARIE AKINLOTAN
LPN-21218	LAURYN P RODGERS	LPN-21232	ROXANA HERNANDEZ
LPN-21219	BRIAN JAMES LEITCH	LPN-21233	STACY KAMATU
LPN-21220	VALERIE PASCUAL CACACHO	LPN-21234	ERIKA FAYE ESPOSO
LPN-21221	CASSIE EDSMAN	LPN-21235	ELCA REGIS OBERES
LPN-21222	ROSELINE FLEURINORD DUMEZIL	LPN-21236	RANDY DEWAYNE FAIRCHILD
LPN-21223	KRISTI LYNN ADAMS	LPN-21237	MIA BRIANNE MAZON
LPN-21224	CHRISTINA OBIAGELI THOMAS	LPN-21238	JANICE MARIE HARDIN-MARKS
LPN-21225	NIGEL GAYLE	LPN-21239	SHELLY ANN SYKES
LPN-21226	LANCELOTTE ST. HUGH WALKER	LPN-21240	MARISOL GUTIERREZ
LPN-21227	LORE'AL JOI SEIKO PULE	LPN-21241	MENG MI QIN
LPN-21228	CHLOE BETH LAMBERT		
LPN-21229	EMMA N JONES		
LPN-21230	PRINCESS ZALEAHNI PELENIO LANTAYA		

**Registered Nurses (RN)**

RN-122216	ELIANA E VELAZQUEZ OLVERA	RN-122242	SHELBY ZABOROWSKI
RN-122217	JESSICA NEUHAUSEL	RN-122243	COURTNEY KALIE REIKO HADAMA
RN-122218	ALEXANDER GIBSON	RN-122244	NICHAIL SALINAS
RN-122219	JULIE ANN HUERVA SARRIA	RN-122245	KELLY ANN SMITH
RN-122220	ERIN TOMPKINS	RN-122246	PIPER STERLING KNIGHT
RN-122221	NANA AMMA SERWAA-BONSU	RN-122247	LARENA LYNN WALSH
RN-122222	DIANE KRISTINE ALIANGAN LUCENA	RN-122248	DONNA MARIE BRAY
RN-122223	SARA MULRYNE	RN-122249	ANGELA LEIGH HARRIS
RN-122224	KENZIE LOGAN	RN-122250	BRIANNA MEADOWS
RN-122225	GRANT CABATO	RN-122251	OLIVIA POUQUIER
RN-122226	CHASITY RENA CROMER	RN-122252	ROBERTA ANGIELCZYK
RN-122227	AILEEN ANGELES	RN-122253	ERIN REED
RN-122228	REBECCA LEA WHITE	RN-122254	JENNIFER SHINGLES
RN-122229	KANG CHUN LU	RN-122255	DANIELLE JEAN SUITER
RN-122230	KANDIS M KELTING	RN-122256	PATRICK VERZOSA
RN-122231	AUSTIN WALDROP	RN-122257	ALLYSON RENEE PFEIL
RN-122232	KELSEY ALBERS	RN-122258	BRITTNEY NICOLE MCCLOUD
RN-122233	JASMINE SUTHERLAND	RN-122259	ANA MARIA SUSTAETA
RN-122234	JOYANN BURGETT	RN-122260	BRANDI KAY SEAY
RN-122235	CHLOE ANN HANEGRAAF	RN-122261	ARON BERTI
RN-122236	ANGEL LUIS RIVERA SANTIAGO	RN-122262	MICHELLE ARIANA SANCHEZ
RN-122237	ABIGAIL PHILIPPS	RN-122263	IYONNA JANECE WALKER
RN-122238	ERIN MCKENNA	RN-122264	CAROLINE HUI-QING YU
RN-122239	OMOYA BRITINIE AMEIKA PENDLEY	RN-122265	BARRY DIRKSEN SINGLETON
RN-122240	GIOVANNI COCO	RN-122266	JENNIFER MARIA HAMMOND
RN-122241	KEREN ARISAI AGUINAGA	RN-122267	MELISSA JO TINDAL

RN-122268	KAYDIANN A BROWN-STUCKEY	RN-122312	STEPHANIE NICOLE LOPEZ
RN-122269	DIANDRA S LEANE	RN-122313	COURTNEY KEARNS
RN-122270	NIMONE HARRISON	RN-122314	MICHELE DARA TAYLOR
RN-122271	SARAH THERESA ZAHARIA	RN-122315	ALYSON RENEE COFFMAN
RN-122272	MEGAN LYNN MASCHINOT	RN-122316	CONNOR ROSENAU
RN-122273	LILLY MAY MILLER	RN-122317	LANETTE FAIR LATTING
RN-122274	BRITNEY LONG	RN-122318	MARY THERESE BUZAKI
RN-122275	D'ANGELO JAMAR WILLIAMS	RN-122319	AMY BETH WOMACK
RN-122276	SHAINA MARGARET MARTINEZ	RN-122320	EMILY RENEE PALMA
RN-122277	MARISA LIPPIAN	RN-122321	HANNAH MARIE CARRIGEE
RN-122278	KATHERYN HETMAN	RN-122322	MAREENA JOSEPH MAMMEN
RN-122279	NATALIE ROSE WELCH	RN-122323	LEAH DENISE TRACY
RN-122280	LORI COLLEEN HILL	RN-122324	OLIVIA KRITZMAN
RN-122281	RENEE MAY HAYE	RN-122325	EMILY CASEY
RN-122282	MICHAEL DAVID FRETZ	RN-122326	BRIDGET HOBIN
RN-122283	KIMBERLY DENISE REYNOLDS	RN-122327	KAYLA RENEE PYLES
RN-122284	SHONCY MCKINNEY	RN-122328	KATIE BELIZAIRE DIMANCHE
RN-122285	ANGELICA I YOUNG	RN-122329	YULIET JENSEN
RN-122286	MYRA TIBUYEN AGCAOILI	RN-122330	IRENE SIMON GACULA
RN-122287	CHELSEA MENDOZA BISQUERA	RN-122331	GERMAINE NOEL PIERRE
RN-122288	CHLOE FIELD	RN-122332	CASSANDRA ELTINE
RN-122289	CHELSEY AMBER BUCHER-HEBERT	RN-122333	KAYLA-ANN PU'UWAI MA'EMA'E TILIMWAR
RN-122290	TANIA MICHELLE CEPEDA-MACHICOTE	RN-122334	ALOHALANI RIYOKO HO
RN-122291	JANNETTE RENE LUCAS	RN-122335	PRISCILLA REED
RN-122292	SUPAPORN PIJARACHOT CHOCK	RN-122336	KANAYO SAKAI
RN-122293	ANDREA MARIE LOZOYA GARNICA	RN-122337	HENRY CHINOMSO OKAFOR
RN-122294	NICHOLAS PAUL AH LIANG SOENKSEN	RN-122338	JULIAN VINCENT CAMPOS
RN-122295	AVA YVETTE SANCHEZ	RN-122339	BRANDY G GOMEZ
RN-122296	ELLYCEA MEGAN GEER	RN-122340	ARIANNE AISSA SHERZAI
RN-122297	OLGA SAMOKHVALOVA	RN-122341	JONATHAN RICHARD CASEY
RN-122298	SARAH RAE ANDERSON	RN-122342	DAVID JAMES MYERS
RN-122299	JONATHAN HOLLOWAY	RN-122343	ROCHELLIE MARIE DE LA PENA DACOSCOS
RN-122300	KATHERINE MARIE DELIDOW	RN-122344	SOPHIA GAY
RN-122301	ASHLEY MONTGOMERY	RN-122345	JANE A JAMES
RN-122302	ALLISON CLARK	RN-122346	LASHANDA JANELL JONES
RN-122303	JASMINE MORALES	RN-122347	KATHRYN KING-ALEXANDER
RN-122304	PRINCESS MAE ASHBY	RN-122348	CHRISTINE P KNAPP
RN-122305	THOMAS D VO	RN-122349	JERNESHA MCGHEE
RN-122306	SHELBY DUPREE	RN-122350	MICHELLE RICKETTS
RN-122307	KIRTI BHULLAR	RN-122351	JOCELYN MAY SANCHEZ
RN-122308	LAUREN MICHELLE BYRD	RN-122352	JOLENE CAROL STEPHENS
RN-122309	COLLEEN GURNEY	RN-122353	KEILA TYLER
RN-122310	INDIRA D PACHECO UMANZOR	RN-122354	ESTHER WILLIAMS
RN-122311	ELIZABETH SUZANNE DALEY		

RN-122355	ABNER C ZARZUELA	RN-122399	GHISLAINE BAZIN
RN-122356	ROBERT HOWINGTON	RN-122400	HEATHER LYNN SEIBERS
RN-122357	REBECCA SANTOSCOY	RN-122401	ALYSSA JENKINS
RN-122358	SHELDA RAE VINSON	RN-122402	MICHELLE QUILANA SIBUCAO
RN-122359	MACKENZIE RAE WEILAND	RN-122403	ALEXIS VICTORIA WEBSTER
RN-122360	EMILY ANNALIZE BERMAN	RN-122404	KEIRA RUTLEDGE VANDERHORST
RN-122361	NISHA KAKKIRIYATH NAIR	RN-122405	PATTI MATA Xen
RN-122362	JENNIFER FIX	RN-122406	GLORIA FAYE MAGNO PEREGRINO
RN-122363	BEBE NGUYEN	RN-122407	JILLIAN VALENTINA RICHARDS
RN-122364	DARRELL GENE ECKLES	RN-122408	AMANDA LENA COX
RN-122365	SARAH SZUKALSKI	RN-122409	DAISY ANN GALVAN
RN-122366	CHRISTOPHER STEUER	RN-122410	MARGARET ANNE BEASLEY
RN-122367	CRAIG M GOODMAN	RN-122411	KIERSTEN ROBERTSON-RIVAS
RN-122368	MELINDA PARRIS KOESTERS	RN-122412	MATTHEW JOHN RICE
RN-122369	JEANNET DELECTOR AMADAR	RN-122413	JENNIFER STUEVE
RN-122370	MARQUIS GOLIK	RN-122414	RACHEL EWING
RN-122371	ANA CAROLINE TELES REMIGIO	RN-122415	DIANA DAMAWAND
RN-122372	AVA MARIE HAMEL	RN-122416	AMANDA ROSE BOHLMAN
RN-122373	MAIYA A DIETZ	RN-122417	ELIZABETH GEORGE
RN-122374	BOONYARIT SAENGNAXHON	RN-122418	KELLY REBECCA GODSEY
RN-122375	MIJEONG KIM	RN-122419	VERDA MAE JACKSON
RN-122376	ALANNA MCCUMBER	RN-122420	ALLIE ELIZABETH ISRAEL
RN-122377	SOLIBERT NEES	RN-122421	JASMIN JOY SUAYAN BAYKAL
RN-122378	RHEYA BROWN	RN-122422	REBECCA MICHAUD
RN-122379	XIANMING LUO	RN-122423	AUGUSTINA EKE
RN-122380	MCKEIGHLA RUTH KILGORE	RN-122424	HANNAH E REYNOLDS
RN-122381	KRYSTAL ANN POULIOT	RN-122425	HOLLY ELIZABETH BROWN
RN-122382	SUSAN JEAN ESQUIVEL	RN-122426	FIONA NICOLE DRETZKA
RN-122383	SHAYLA BENDS	RN-122427	SHAUNISTY KALEIKAUMAKA SILVA
RN-122384	KATHERINE ELIZABETH BENZIGER	RN-122428	MICHELLE HO-GI TONG
RN-122385	JEANETTE PIDLAOAN	RN-122429	AZEA VASQUEZ MINIA
RN-122386	TRAVIS FULTZ	RN-122430	LILIANE NICOLAS SAULTER
RN-122387	KATHRYN FERGUSON	RN-122431	KRISLYN KNOWLES
RN-122388	CARYS GARIBAY	RN-122432	MONICA LYNN JOHNSON
RN-122389	ARIEL BRENTIESE JUDGE	RN-122433	CECILY KIMIKO NISHIMATSU
RN-122390	SANDRA LEE CHAMBERS	RN-122434	REINA D ROBLES
RN-122391	VANEZZA BRANDS	RN-122435	BLAKE COLBY MANUEL
RN-122392	TERESA DIANE KERBO	RN-122436	ANNE MOHANAN
RN-122393	STEPHANIE KITTEL	RN-122437	SHEVONE SHIZUE SHIMABUKU
RN-122394	HOLLEY MCINTOSH	RN-122438	PLACIDO DELA CRUZ CORPUZ III
RN-122395	JESSICA ANNE HOYOS	RN-122439	RACHELLE SULLIVAN
RN-122396	MARKEIA SHANTREICE BENNETT	RN-122440	SUZANE KIDANE
RN-122397	MICHELLE JEAN SMOCK	RN-122441	ELIZA NOELLE BIRRER
RN-122398	IRENE BROOKE MALVAR	RN-122442	JILL MARIE CIRITELLA

RN-122443	MADALYN AVALLONE	RN-122487	LATARSHA RASBERRY
RN-122444	APRIL HELENE SMITH	RN-122488	SARAH KIM
RN-122445	KATHLEEN ANN JONES	RN-122489	COURTNEY ELIZABETH HYLAND
RN-122446	CARLA A JOHNSON-FERGUSON	RN-122490	DEVEN COLBY PIERCE
RN-122447	BRIANNA BOBROWICZ	RN-122491	HONOURINE AFUNWI
RN-122448	PHILLIP ANDREW NEWMAN	RN-122492	CAITLIN MCCALL LANZEL
RN-122449	TELISHA N CLARK	RN-122493	MELISSA ELLIS
RN-122450	CATALINA AVALOS	RN-122494	JORDICE B COREY
RN-122451	ANGELICA CHANG	RN-122495	MELISSA MARGARET RYTTING
RN-122452	ASHLEY MARIE MANLEY	RN-122496	ANN MARIE MCNEILL
RN-122453	SARAH OTIGHIGBO	RN-122497	CRISANNYS FERNANDEZ
RN-122454	MARK POHLMAN	RN-122498	KAREN ELIZABETH HILDEBRAND
RN-122455	CARMEN LEIGH SYKORA	RN-122499	MERCY ANN C BUMANGLAG
RN-122456	MENGMENG XING	RN-122500	KAYLA CALLAHAN
RN-122457	TONYA KAY NICHOLS	RN-122501	ALINE DUPICHE CREVECOEUR
RN-122458	CHELSIE D LEAVITT	RN-122502	DINAE DEMAYO
RN-122459	VICTOR M GALIZA	RN-122503	PATRICK ANTHONY MADLEY
RN-122460	ELIZABETH WIDMEYER	RN-122504	LINDSEY ANNE N. WILSON
RN-122461	ALLISON LAI SHANG CHING	RN-122505	MICHAEL DAVID CHOLEY
RN-122462	ALBERTINE RWABUKAMBA	RN-122506	CHADAI BAILEY
RN-122463	JOY MELINDA BERGH	RN-122507	MAMI BELL
RN-122464	MORGAN M CAMMACK	RN-122508	EMILEE MARIE ORR
RN-122465	LORATO C ADKINS	RN-122509	MONICA SEBBEN
RN-122466	MARIA R VOGEL	RN-122510	LENA RAE SCHUSTER
RN-122467	KOMAL BHARDWAJ	RN-122511	TAYLOR THALHEIMER
RN-122468	SHEILA CARBALLO SY	RN-122512	TIMOTHY DAVID SMITH
RN-122469	NEVELYN N EVERLY	RN-122513	SETH MARTIN
RN-122470	KRISTEN KOZAK	RN-122514	ALEXANDRA QUINTANA
RN-122471	HAILEY WOLF	RN-122515	AYANA GOTO HADLEY
RN-122472	OLIVIA BATES	RN-122516	MARJORIE JANE CUEVAS
RN-122473	JASMINE NICOLE TAYLOR	RN-122517	DESIREE MCDONALD
RN-122474	ALJELYN MINULUAN SINANG	RN-122518	TIFFANY TORRES MORAN
RN-122475	MARTIN ABSALON CORNEJO MANCILLA	RN-122519	CRYSTAL DEANNA COOK
RN-122476	NATHALIE WEST	RN-122520	ANTONRIA LANE E ARMAN
RN-122477	ASHLEE COOLEY	RN-122521	AMY M ELLISON
RN-122478	PINKY B PRATT	RN-122522	ANGELA MICHELLE COLEMAN
RN-122479	TAKISHA KIDD	RN-122523	SEKAYI MARKETIA WILLIAMS
RN-122480	JESSICA ERIN LYNCH	RN-122524	NIKKI MARIE BATEMAN
RN-122481	KIKELOMO BEATRICE ADENEKAN	RN-122525	BRANDON RUNION
RN-122482	MORIAH DANIELLE BLAYLOCK	RN-122526	CHRISTINE MICHELLE FITE DAY
RN-122483	CHRISTINA TREGO	RN-122527	JAMIE DETINGO
RN-122484	ANNE POZNER	RN-122528	JESSICA MARIE LOPEZ
RN-122485	JESSICA JOHNSON	RN-122529	YANERETH REYES
RN-122486	RHAYVYN HIRAYAMA	RN-122530	SARAH NAIL



RN-122531	D'ANTAYE LAVELLE HALL	RN-122572	AUBREY JAE POOLE
RN-122532	BRIDGER BABCOCK	RN-122573	TANIA GUERRIER CASTOR
RN-122533	JENNIFER GREEN	RN-122574	KARLEE MAIOHO
RN-122534	PATRIK UPDIKE	RN-122575	MASON SCHAE KRATOHVIL
RN-122535	EMILY JUDD	RN-122576	MARANDA LASURE
RN-122536	SHANDA MEKIA JOY	RN-122577	LAURA ELAINE BERG
RN-122537	JANIE D DEVORA	RN-122578	BENJAMIN-FAUSTO SAYON THIELMAN
RN-122538	CHRISTOPHER WRIGHT	RN-122579	ALEXIS LU BEAN
RN-122539	JEWEL MARIE WORKMAN	RN-122580	MEGAN GLASS
RN-122540	JAN ARENDAIN	RN-122581	RUTH HERMOSA NAVARRO
RN-122541	LISA ANN WUESTHOFF	RN-122582	JAMIE CROSS
RN-122542	PAYTON MAGUIRE DUSTER	RN-122583	HEATHER STEPHENSON
RN-122543	ANN ELISE BUTTERWORTH	RN-122584	JENNIFER LYNN WHITAKER
RN-122544	JAYNA BETH MILLER	RN-122585	JENNIFER AJUZIE
RN-122545	CATHERINE BOUHOUCHE	RN-122586	HAPPY KARLA MEGIE
RN-122546	KATHERINE ABAYOMI	RN-122587	SHAWN CATHERINE BUIE
RN-122547	LAUREN ELIZABETH CONNOR	RN-122588	MELISSA A CHILDERS
RN-122548	KIERAN MATTHEW JONES	RN-122589	ALYSSA CENTOPANI
RN-122549	SOMER ANN HOLLAND	RN-122590	SHERRY BARRIENTOS
RN-122550	HEATHER NORTON	RN-122591	SHEMETRA BREXTON
RN-122551	EMILY J GABBARD	RN-122592	ALEXA HARCOURT
RN-122552	JOEMAR SANTOS	RN-122593	JUANITA PAYNE
RN-122553	EARTHA L LEVY	RN-122594	SHANNON CHAMBERS
RN-122554	MARQUITA OLURIN	RN-122595	CRYSTAL ARIEL WATERFIELD
RN-122555	MORGAN LACY	RN-122596	CYNTHIA J POGLAJEN
RN-122556	RENITA BONSU	RN-122597	SHANNON MARIE ADAMS
RN-122557	KACIE R DREDLA	RN-122598	ERIN CASEY
RN-122558	MADELINE ELIZABETH BELL	RN-122599	DICIA JANE WEAVER
RN-122559	AMBER DANIELLE MCKENZIE	RN-122601	BROOKE ALLYNN KIPP
RN-122560	GAIL S ELDER-BATTLE	RN-122602	DEVON D SHARKEY
RN-122561	KHATIDJA ADEN	RN-122603	SARA GRACE MARBERT
RN-122562	ANNEMARIE DUFFY	RN-122604	KATELYNN TOTH
RN-122563	KRISTEN ADAMOWITZ	RN-122605	TIFFANY BICKEL
RN-122564	BING YING YANG	RN-122606	BEATRICE NYAGA
RN-122565	LAUREN CHRISTINE SMITH	RN-122607	JOHN CHARLES GROW
RN-122566	CHLOE MAIE WALLICK	RN-122608	SONYA GALLEGOS KOOKEN
RN-122567	MERISSA BORDEN	RN-122609	DIVINE DABU FLORES
RN-122568	MENELIK MURRAY		
RN-122569	WILLIAM TODD WELDON		
RN-122570	ALICIA GRAY		
RN-122571	ASHLEY M OUTHENTHAPANYA		

**ADVANCED PRACTICE REGISTERED NURSES**

**RATIFICATION LIST**

DECEMBER 5, 2024

National Certification

APRN ONLY:

APRN-4885	WILLIAM BRIAN HARRISON	NURSE ANESTHETISTS
APRN-4892	ROBERT HOWINGTON	NURSE ANESTHETISTS
APRN-4896	ROBERT MYRON FEDOROW	NURSE ANESTHETISTS
APRN-4897	BRITTANY L TROXEL	FAMILY NURSE PRACTITIONER
APRN-4902	ELIZABETH M HICK	NURSE ANESTHETISTS
APRN-4907	ALIA M HAJOU	FAMILY NURSE PRACTITIONER
APRN-4909	LAVON FENDERSON	FAMILY NURSE PRACTITIONER
APRN-4914	JORDICE B COREY	FAMILY NURSE PRACTITIONER
APRN-4917	MICHAEL DAVID CHOLEY	NURSE ANESTHETISTS
APRN-4919	CHRISTINE MICHELLE FITE DAY	NURSE ANESTHETISTS
APRN-4922	TRACY LYNN CLAWSON	FAMILY NURSE PRACTITIONER
APRN-4923	KIERAN MATTHEW JONES	FAMILY NURSE PRACTITIONER
APRN-4930	CASSANDRA GOTAY	NURSE ANESTHETISTS

APRN W/PRESCRIPTIVE AUTHORITY:

APRN-4877	TRACY T CANONIZADO	FAMILY NURSE PRACTITIONER
APRN-4878	LARENA LYNN WALSH	FAMILY NURSE PRACTITIONER
APRN-4879	SHATARA COLEMAN	FAMILY NURSE PRACTITIONER
APRN-4880	KACI K UYEHARA	FAMILY NURSE PRACTITIONER
APRN-4881	ANGELA XI CHEN	FAMILY NURSE PRACTITIONER
APRN-4882	CAMERON LEE GRANT	FAMILY NURSE PRACTITIONER
APRN-4883	TIEN DIEM HUYNH LUU	FAMILY NURSE PRACTITIONER
APRN-4884	ERIKA DANIELLE SOLEY	NURSE ANESTHETISTS
APRN-4886	KANAYO SAKAI	PSYCHIATRIC MENTAL HEALTH NURSE PRACTITIONER
APRN-4887	CHRISTOPHER JOSHUA ATEN	PSYCHIATRIC MENTAL HEALTH NURSE PRACTITIONER
APRN-4888	CRISTIN W MOORE	FAMILY NURSE PRACTITIONER
APRN-4889	NARGIZA AKYOL	FAMILY NURSE PRACTITIONER, PSYCHIATRIC MENTAL HEALTH NURSE PRACTITIONER
APRN-4890	SIMONA BENEDETTA SERIO	ADULT-GERONTOLOGICAL NURSE PRACTITIONER
APRN-4891	NIAN ZHANG	FAMILY NURSE PRACTITIONER
APRN-4893	JENNIFER FIX	FAMILY NURSE PRACTITIONER
APRN-4894	STACY ANN WASON-FAWVER	FAMILY NURSE PRACTITIONER
APRN-4895	CAMILLA SIMON	FAMILY NURSE PRACTITIONER
APRN-4898	JESSICA ANN BLAIR	ADULT-GERONTOLOGY ACUTE CARE NURSE PRACTITIONER
APRN-4899	JENNIFER AGUSTIN COSTA	FAMILY NURSE PRACTITIONER
APRN-4900	JONATHAN HOLLOWAY	FAMILY NURSE PRACTITIONER
APRN-4901	ROEN K ORNELLAS	FAMILY NURSE PRACTITIONER
APRN-4903	TARYN L KOSIER	CERTIFIED NURSE MIDWIVES
APRN-4904	EMILY NANCY FAN	FAMILY NURSE PRACTITIONER
APRN-4905	DAVID JAMES MYERS	NURSE ANESTHETISTS

APRN-4906	JOY MELINDA BERGH	PSYCHIATRIC MENTAL HEALTH NURSE PRACTITIONER
APRN-4908	MARIA R VOGEL	FAMILY NURSE PRACTITIONER
APRN-4910	YANYOU LI	ADULT NURSE PRACTITIONER
APRN-4911	CHAELYN TANI	FAMILY NURSE PRACTITIONER
APRN-4912	PINKY B PRATT	FAMILY NURSE PRACTITIONER
APRN-4913	CANDACE S BLACK	FAMILY NURSE PRACTITIONER
APRN-4915	CRISANNYS FERNANDEZ	FAMILY NURSE PRACTITIONER
APRN-4916	PATRICK ANTHONY MADLEY	FAMILY NURSE PRACTITIONER
APRN-4918	TIFFANY TORRES MORAN	FAMILY NURSE PRACTITIONER
APRN-4920	LORI LYNN ILDEFONSO MALASIG	FAMILY NURSE PRACTITIONER
APRN-4921	ALFREDA LOUISE SHIELDS	FAMILY NURSE PRACTITIONER, PSYCHIATRIC MENTAL HEALTH NURSE PRACTITIONER
APRN-4924	SUSAN SUMIKO HARADA	FAMILY NURSE PRACTITIONER
APRN-4925	SCOTT KEONI SADLER	FAMILY NURSE PRACTITIONER
APRN-4926	JASMIN JOY SUAYAN BAYKAL	PSYCHIATRIC MENTAL HEALTH NURSE PRACTITIONER
APRN-4927	BRANDY G GOMEZ	PSYCHIATRIC MENTAL HEALTH NURSE PRACTITIONER
APRN-4928	SHEILA CARBALLO SY	PEDIATRIC NURSE PRACTITIONER
APRN-4929	BARRY DIRKSEN SINGLETON	PSYCHIATRIC MENTAL HEALTH NURSE PRACTITIONER
APRN-4931	AMBER DANIELLE MCKENZIE	FAMILY NURSE PRACTITIONER

DRAFT

# **TIME FOR TRIAGE: A SUMMARY OF BEST PRACTICES, STATE REQUIREMENTS, AND SUCCESSFUL EFFORTS TO REDUCE NURSE STAFFING SHORTAGES**

Primary Researchers:

**DEVIN CHOY**  
**VALERIE GREY**  
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Supervising Researcher:

**LANCE CHING**  
Research Attorney

Report No. 1, 2024

Legislative Reference Bureau  
State Capitol  
Honolulu, Hawaii  
<https://lrb.hawaii.gov>

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Time for triage : a summary of best practices, state requirements, and successful efforts to reduce nurse staffing shortages.

Honolulu, Hawaii : Legislative Reference Bureau, January 2025.

1. Nursing – Standards – United States – States.
2. Nursing – Personnel management – Statistical methods.
3. Hospitals – Administrations – Statistical methods.

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## FOREWORD

This report was prepared in response to House Concurrent Resolution No. 187, House Draft 1, Senate Draft 1 (2024). The concurrent resolution directed the Legislative Reference Bureau to conduct a study on nurse staffing.

The Bureau requested input from stakeholder organizations in the State. The Bureau extends its appreciation to the following organizations for providing information regarding issues pertaining to nurse staffing: Department of Health, Hawaii Government Employees Association, Hawaii Center for Nursing, Hawaii Nurses' Association, Healthcare Association of Hawaii, and University of Hawaii at Manoa Nancy Atmospera-Walch School of Nursing. The Bureau also acknowledges and extends its appreciation for the prior research conducted by Nursa, National Consumer Voice for Quality Long-Term Care, the Medicaid and CHIP Payment and Access Commission, IntelyCare, and NurseJournal.

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## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Legislative Reference Bureau (Bureau) prepared this report pursuant to House Concurrent Resolution No. 187, H.D. 1, S.D. 1 (2024), which requested the Bureau "to conduct a study on best practices for nurse staffing in health care facilities which shall assess and discuss: (1) Existing nursing staffing standards and regulations in other states; and (2) A literature review of best practices for staffing and workforce development, along with successful efforts in other states to address the nursing workforce shortage[.]"

The Bureau conducted a literature review of best practices for nurse staffing and workforce development as summarized in Chapter 2, reviewed nursing staffing standards and regulations in other states as described in Chapter 3, and researched successful efforts in other states to address the nursing workforce shortage as discussed in Chapter 4.

There appears to be a consensus that nurses who are assigned to fewer patients have better patient outcomes and experience preferable employment conditions compared to nurses who are assigned to more patients in the same healthcare setting. It also appears that states have taken a multitude of approaches to achieving better patient outcomes and preferable nursing employment conditions including:

- (1) Nurse staffing ratios established by law;
- (2) Staffing committees to establish nurse staffing ratios;
- (3) Requirements to have at least one nurse on duty;
- (4) Public reporting of nurse staffing levels;
- (5) Team nursing strategies; and
- (6) Prohibitions or restrictions on nurse overtime.

Each of these has some evidentiary support, though there is no clear evidence that one approach or a particular combination of approaches is the most effective in achieving better patient outcomes or more preferable employment conditions. Accordingly, the Bureau recommends considering a combination of approaches, but makes no specific recommendation.

Additionally, the Bureau recommends a multi-faceted approach to addressing the nursing workforce shortage, including increasing the number of nurse graduates by funding programs to support nurse preceptors, incentivizing nursing schools to increase enrollment, and increasing nursing student clinical placements, while also funding existing programs established to address Hawaii's nursing workforce shortage.

## Chapter 1

### INTRODUCTION

House Concurrent Resolution No. 187, House Draft 1, Senate Draft 1 (2024) (hereafter "Resolution") directs the Legislative Reference Bureau (the Bureau) to conduct a study on nurse staffing. (*See Appendix A*). Specifically, the Resolution states:

BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the Thirty-second Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2024, the Senate concurring, that the Legislative Reference Bureau is requested to conduct a study on best practices for nurse staffing in health care facilities which shall assess and discuss:

- (1) Existing nursing staffing standards and regulations in other states; and
- (2) A literature review of best practices for staffing and workforce development, along with successful efforts in other states to address the nursing workforce shortage; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislative Reference Bureau is requested to submit a report of its findings and recommendations to the Legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2025

#### Scope of the Report

In this report, the Bureau focused on the information requested by the Resolution.

The Bureau separated the substantive response to the Resolution into three chapters. The literature review of best practices for staffing and workforce development appears in Chapter 2 and the information regarding the existing nursing staffing standards and regulations in other states appears in Chapter 3.

Chapter 4 includes background information on the Hawaii nursing workforce shortage to provide context for the discussion on the successful efforts made by other states mentioned in the second part of that chapter.

#### Methodology

In preparing this report, the Bureau reviewed relevant laws, rules, and regulations; contacted various nursing entities in the State for input on documents responsive to the Resolution; and reviewed numerous journals and publications.

## Chapter 2

### LITERATURE REVIEW OF BEST PRACTICES FOR NURSE STAFFING AND WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

This chapter provides an overview of multiple approaches that states and healthcare facilities have taken to address nurse staffing shortages. A more detailed review of state laws related to nurse staffing is provided in chapter 3.

This chapter also examines recommendations made by healthcare associations and professional advocacy groups and explores how these recommendations are evaluated in academic literature. Our review was limited by time and access to materials and is not intended to be comprehensive.

Since Bureau staff do not have specialized medical or nursing expertise, we express no opinion regarding the validity, feasibility, or definitiveness of these "best practices."

#### **Background: State and National Nurse Staffing Shortages**

The United States Bureau of Labor Statistics estimates that between 2023 and 2033, approximately 194,500 new Registered Nurses (RNs) per year will be needed to meet the country's health care needs.<sup>1</sup> This projection is based primarily on the number of nurses who are expected to retire or change occupations.<sup>2</sup> Prior to 2020, nurse retirements were already outpacing new hires, and an aging population increased demand for nursing services.<sup>3</sup> The 2019 coronavirus disease pandemic (COVID-19) highlighted and exacerbated these issues.<sup>4</sup>

In Hawaii, employment projections suggest that the State will need approximately 90 new Licensed Practical Nurses (LPNs) each year through 2030 to account for increased demand, retirements, and career changes.<sup>5</sup> According to the United States Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), Hawaii currently has approximately seventy percent of the RNs needed

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<sup>1</sup> See U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics Occupational Outlook Handbook for Registered Nurses, <https://www.bls.gov/ooh/healthcare/registered-nurses.htm>.

<sup>2</sup> See *id.*

<sup>3</sup> See Nurses in the Workforce, American Nurses Association, <https://www.nursingworld.org/practice-policy/workforce/>.

<sup>4</sup> See *id.*

<sup>5</sup> See Hawaii State Center for Nursing (2024), 2023 Hawaii Nursing Workforce Supply: Statewide Report, <https://www.hawaiiicenterfornursing.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/04/2023HawaiiNursingWorkforceSupply.vFinal.pdf> at 6-7.

to meet the State's health care demands.<sup>6</sup> Absent any major changes to the workforce, the State is projected to have approximately eighty-eight percent of the RNs required by 2036.<sup>7</sup>

### **Nurse Staffing Standards: A Legislative Approach to Improving Nurse Staffing**

Legally mandated nurse staffing standards are one way in which states have attempted to address critical nurse staffing shortages. Generally, these laws fall into two broad categories:

1. General nurse staffing standards that leave staffing levels to the healthcare facilities' discretion; and
2. Specific nurse staffing ratios that require a certain number of nurses, or nursing hours, per patient.

Many states utilize both general nurse staffing standards and specific nurse staffing ratios, depending on the healthcare setting.

### **General Nurse Staffing Standards**

Some states' laws address nurse staffing standards only in very general terms.<sup>8</sup> They require healthcare facilities to maintain staffing levels that are "sufficient,"<sup>9</sup> "adequate,"<sup>10</sup> or "necessary,"<sup>11</sup> to meet patients' needs. In many states, these general standards are applicable only to certain types of healthcare facilities. For example, Hawaii requires skilled nursing facilities and intermediate care facilities to "have nursing staff sufficient in number and qualifications to meet the nursing needs of the residents."<sup>12</sup> Most states with general staffing standards, including Hawaii, do not statutorily define terms like "sufficient," "adequate," or "necessary." The Bureau

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<sup>6</sup> See *id.* at 8 (citing Health Resources and Services Administration (2024), *Workforce Projections*. Data, HRSA.gov, <https://data.hrsa.gov/topics/health-workforce/workforce-projections>).

<sup>7</sup> See *id.*

<sup>8</sup> Federal regulations also include general staffing standards. For example, the Conditions of Participation for Hospitals, which are mandatory for all hospitals accepting Medicare and Medicaid payments, require nurse staffing to be "adequate." See 42 C.F.R. Chapter IV, Subchapter G, Part 482, available at <https://www.ecfr.gov/current/title-42/chapter-IV/subchapter-G/part-482>. Recently-enacted Medicare and Medicaid standards for long-term care facilities require "sufficient numbers" of certain types of personnel "to provide nursing care to all residents in according with resident care plans," and "a sufficient number of staff with the appropriate competencies and skill sets necessary to assure resident safety and to attain or maintain the highest practicable physical, mental, and psychosocial well-being of each resident[.]" Licensed nurses in Medicare and Medicaid long-term care facilities are required to have "the specific competencies and skill sets necessary to care for residents' needs[.]" See 89 Fed. Reg. 40876, available at <https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/FR-2024-05-10/pdf/2024-08273.pdf>.

<sup>9</sup> See Mo. Rev. Stat. §197.289; 175 Neb. Admin. Code §12-006.04(D); Ohio Admin. Code 3701-84-62(H).

<sup>10</sup> See S.C. Code Ann. Regs. 61-17-605 (A); Ala. Admin. Code r. 420-5-7-.11(1); N.M. Code R. §8.370.12.27(C)(1).

<sup>11</sup> See R.I. Gen. Laws § 23-17.5-32(a) and W. Va. Code R. § 64-13-8.1.

<sup>12</sup> Haw. Code R. §11-94.2-39(a).

found no literature directly addressing the efficacy or outcomes of laws containing general nurse staffing standards.

## **Nurse Staffing Ratios**

Many states have specific, mandated nurse staffing ratios that are applicable only in certain circumstances or healthcare settings. For example, California requires different nurse staffing ratios for critical care units, labor and delivery suites, post-anesthesia recovery units, and other healthcare settings.<sup>13</sup> Georgia dictates the number of hours that a registered professional nurse or licensed practical nurse must be on site at a residential care home or health care facility, depending on the number of patients or residents, and with different standards for assisted living communities, memory care centers, and nursing homes.<sup>14</sup> Maine has different nurse staffing standards for day shift, evening shift, and night shift. Often, the circumstances in which the ratios apply are defined by a combination of healthcare setting and patient acuity. California has multiple nurse staffing ratios that apply, in the alternative, to emergency departments, depending on whether a patient requires basic emergency services or critical care services.<sup>15</sup>

Nurse staffing ratios based on a combination of healthcare setting and patient acuity are supported by many nurse advocacy groups and professional nursing associations. In 2023, the Nurse Staffing Task Force, convened by the Partners for Nurse Staffing Think Tank, published recommended actions to address the country's nurse staffing crisis.<sup>16</sup> These included recommendations to "[c]ollaborate with specialty organizations to implement Think Tank recommendations on developing minimum staffing standards for specific populations," and to "[s]et minimum nurse-to-patient ratios, unit-based ratios, or minimum nursing hours per patient day based on the clinical setting."<sup>17</sup>

The American Association of Critical-Care Nurses made similar recommendations in its 2024 publication "AACN Standards for Appropriate Staffing in Adult Critical Care."<sup>18</sup> Among other standards, the Association recommended that "[f]or every shift, patient assignments are based on an accurate assessment of the current nursing workload generated by each patient's needs and align nurse competency with patient characteristics."<sup>19</sup> More specifically, the Association recommended that "[o]rganizational staffing plans anticipate that critically ill or injured patients generally require a ratio of 1 nurse to 2 patients."<sup>20</sup> This 1:2 ratio mirrors California's mandated staffing ratio for critical care patients.<sup>21</sup>

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<sup>13</sup> See Cal. Health & Safety Code § 1276.4(a).

<sup>14</sup> See Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. 111-8-22-.06(2)(b)(4)(i); Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. 111-8-63-.09(18)(c); Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. 111-8-63-.19(1)(c)(iv); Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. 111-8-56-.04(4); and Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. 111-8-56-.04(6).

<sup>15</sup> See Cal. Health & Safety Code § 1276.4(a).

<sup>16</sup> See Nurse Staffing Task Force. *Nurse Staffing Task Force Imperatives, Recommendations, and Actions*. American Association of Critical-Care Nurses and American Nurses Association; 2023.

<sup>17</sup> *Id.*

<sup>18</sup> AACN Standards for Appropriate Staffing in Adult Critical Care, American Association of Critical-Care Nurses; 2024.

<sup>19</sup> *Id.*

<sup>20</sup> *Id.*

<sup>21</sup> See Cal. Health & Safety Code § 1276.4(a).

In its updated standards, the Association of Women's Health, Obstetric, and Neonatal Nurses offered more specific recommendations for nurse staffing ratios in perinatal units.<sup>22</sup> Its recommendations are based on patient acuity and address thirty-one clinical situations. Recommended nurse-to-patient ratios include 1:1 for a patient who requires more intensive monitoring, including for a woman with antepartum complications who is unstable, a woman receiving oxytocin during labor, and a newborn requiring complex critical care; 1:3 for women who are postpartum with complications but are stable; and 1:5 for women who are postpartum without complications, when their newborns are cared for by another nurse.<sup>23</sup> The highest recommended ratio is "1 or more to 1" for an "[u]nstable newborn requiring complex critical care."<sup>24</sup>

The healthcare associations' recommendations for setting-based and acuity-based nurse staffing ratios are also supported by academic studies. While most studies stop short of recommending specific nurse staffing ratios, they provide relevant data to suggest that both patient acuity and healthcare setting should be considered when determining appropriate ratios. For example, a 2011 study, published in the *Journal of Advanced Nursing*, found that while there is a correlation between nurse staffing ratios and in-hospital mortality or unplanned readmissions, "the relationship is moderated by volume and severity of illness, respectively."<sup>25</sup> Looking at patients who underwent coronary artery bypass surgery or heart valve procedures in twenty-eight Belgian acute care hospitals, the authors of the study found that, for patients who were less ill, there was a stronger correlation between nurse staffing levels and readmission to the intensive care unit.<sup>26</sup> The authors speculated that for more severely ill patients, their readmissions were caused primarily by underlying comorbidities and were unrelated to nurse staffing or quality of care.<sup>27</sup> The authors therefore recommended that a distinction be made between the nurse staffing ratios needed for postoperative intensive care units versus the ratios needed for postoperative general nursing units. They argued that "a blanket proposal for all nursing units might not lead to any improvement in the healthcare delivery system."<sup>28</sup>

A 2017 study, published in the *European Journal of Cardiovascular Nursing* found that "patient factors," defined as "patient nursing needs according to acuity and dependency levels," were one of three factors that should be considered when determining the optimal nurse staffing ratios for acute specialist units.<sup>29</sup> Other factors included "ward factors" or patient volume, and "nurse staff factors," or nurses' skill levels.<sup>30</sup> Considering the effects of nurse staffing ratios on

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<sup>22</sup> See Association of Women's Health, Obstetric, and Neonatal Nurses, *Standards for Professional Registered Nurse Staffing for Perinatal Units* (2022).

<sup>23</sup> See *id.* at 9-10.

<sup>24</sup> *Id.* at 10.

<sup>25</sup> Luwis Diya, et al., *The Relationship Between In-Hospital Mortality, Readmission Into the Intensive Care Nursing Unit and/or Operating Theatre and Nurse Staffing Levels*, *J. of Advanced Nursing*, 68 (5), 1073-1081, 1073 (2011).

<sup>26</sup> See *id.* at 1078.

<sup>27</sup> See *id.*

<sup>28</sup> *Id.* at 1079.

<sup>29</sup> See Driscoll, A., et al., *The Effect of Nurse-to-Patient Ratios on Nurse-Sensitive Patient Outcomes in Acute Specialist Units: A Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis*, *European Journal of Cardiovascular Nursing*, 17 (1), 6-22, 7 (2018).

<sup>30</sup> See *id.* at 7.

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"nurse-sensitive patient outcome measures," defined as "adverse events . . . that have been sensitive to changes in nurse staffing," the authors of the study found that, for acute patients, higher nurse-to-patient staffing ratios produced fourteen percent fewer deaths. The authors prefaced their findings by noting that "[t]he notion of an optimal level of nurse staffing is somewhat controversial because there is no one size fits all approach to assessing staffing levels."

### **Higher Staffing Levels: Outcomes for Nurses, Patients, and Hospitals**

Many studies have considered the outcomes for nurses, patients, and hospitals when nurse staffing levels are increased. The studies the Bureau reviewed were congruent in finding positive outcomes for nurses and patients when nurse-to-patient ratios are higher. A few studies suggested that, for hospitals, the outcomes of higher staffing ratios were mixed, with some cost savings and some added expenses and risks. However, the Bureau found no data on the net costs for hospitals.

#### **Nurse Outcomes**

Nurse retention issues, nurse burnout, and high turnover rates have been identified as leading contributors to national nurse shortages. Attrition rates are especially high among newly licensed nurses. A 2012 study found that roughly thirty percent of new nurses left their jobs within the nurse's first year of practice, and up to fifty-seven percent left within the second year.<sup>31</sup> The nurses who left their positions reported experiencing low job satisfaction, based primarily on heavy workloads and an inability to ensure patient safety.<sup>32</sup>

The COVID-19 pandemic highlighted and worsened the impact of overwork and understaffing.<sup>33</sup> In late 2020, many Hawaii nurses reported increased stress, insomnia, and depression and showed signs of post-traumatic stress disorder and burnout.<sup>34</sup> One in five of the Hawaii nurses surveyed said they had considered leaving the nursing workforce.<sup>35</sup> Job fatigue was among the top three reasons that nurses cited for considering leaving their careers.<sup>36</sup> A similar study on nurse shortages in Michigan found that in 2022, thirty-nine percent of the nurses surveyed planned to leave their jobs within one year.<sup>37</sup> Reasons cited included workplace abuse or violence, emotional exhaustion, and understaffing.<sup>38</sup>

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<sup>31</sup> See Renee Twibell, et al., *Why New Nurses Don't Stay and What the Evidence Says We Can Do About It*, Am Nurs Today (2012).

<sup>32</sup> See *id.*

<sup>33</sup> See Holly B. Fontenot, et al., *Impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic on the Hawaii Nursing Workforce: A Cross-Sectional Survey*, 81 (5) Hawaii Journal of Health & Social Welfare 119-126 (2022).

<sup>34</sup> See *id.* at 119.

<sup>35</sup> See *id.* at 125.

<sup>36</sup> See *id.*

<sup>37</sup> See Christopher R. Friese, et al., *Changes in Registered Nurse Employment Plans and Workplace Assessments*, JAMA Network Open (2024),

[https://jamanetwork.com/journals/jamanetworkopen/fullarticle/2821342?utm\\_campaign=articlePDF&utm\\_medium=articlePDFlink&utm\\_source=articlePDF&utm\\_content=jamanetworkopen.2024.21635](https://jamanetwork.com/journals/jamanetworkopen/fullarticle/2821342?utm_campaign=articlePDF&utm_medium=articlePDFlink&utm_source=articlePDF&utm_content=jamanetworkopen.2024.21635).

<sup>38</sup> See *id.*



While nurse understaffing was exacerbated by the pandemic, nurses' dissatisfaction with their jobs appears to have been preexisting. A 2022 study published in *Nursing Outlook* noted that, while COVID-19 contributed to nurses wanting to leave their positions, the pandemic was not the root cause.<sup>39</sup> The authors of the study found that, even prior to the COVID-19 outbreak, forty-eight percent of the nurses surveyed in New York and Illinois reported experiencing burnout.<sup>40</sup> The authors argued that "[c]hronic nurse understaffing and poor work environments in hospitals that existed prior to the COVID-19 pandemic and worsened during the pandemic are major explanations for why many hospitals cannot hire and keep enough nurses even though COVID-19 hospitalizations have dropped."<sup>41</sup> Consequently, research has suggested that "[p]olicies that prevent chronic hospital nurse understaffing have the greatest potential to stabilize the hospital nurse workforce at levels supporting good care and clinician wellbeing."<sup>42</sup>

In 2022, a study published in the *Journal of Nursing Regulation* surveyed a total of 33,462 RNs working in hospitals and nursing homes concerning their workplace conditions and views on staffing policies.<sup>43</sup> Forty-one percent of hospital nurses and forty-four percent of nursing home nurses reported that they were experiencing burnout.<sup>44</sup> More than ninety-five percent of hospital nurses and ninety-two percent of nursing home nurses rated policies to improve staffing as having "very high importance."<sup>45</sup> Only twelve percent of all RNs surveyed agreed that they had "enough staff to get the work done."<sup>46</sup>

Some research suggests that higher staffing ratios can lessen nurse burnout and improve job satisfaction. A 2013 study comparing job satisfaction in California, Pennsylvania, and New Jersey found that "nurses working in hospitals with staffing levels within the parameters set by California's nurse-to-patient ratio reported lower job dissatisfaction and burnout and were less likely to leave their jobs."<sup>47</sup> The author noted that healthcare leaders at the observed hospitals also reported that nurse turnover decreased after the ratios were implemented.<sup>48</sup>

Studies suggest that improved nurse-to-patient ratios may also help reduce occupational illnesses and injuries. A 2013 study published in the *International Archives of Occupational and Environmental Health* found that California's nurse staffing mandate resulted in approximately 31.6 percent fewer workplace-related illnesses and injuries for RNs and approximately 33.6

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<sup>39</sup> See Linda H. Aiken, et al., *A Repeated Cross-Sectional Study of Nurses Immediately Before and During the COVID-19 Pandemic: Implications for Action*, 71 (1) *Nursing Outlook* 101903 (2023).

<sup>40</sup> See *id.* at 4.

<sup>41</sup> *Id.* at 9.

<sup>42</sup> *Id.* at 1.

<sup>43</sup> See Rachel French, et al., *Conditions of Nursing Practice in Hospitals and Nursing Homes Before COVID-19: Implications for Policy Action*, 13 *Journal of Nursing Regulation* 45-53 (April 2022).

<sup>44</sup> See *id.* at 47.

<sup>45</sup> *Id.*

<sup>46</sup> *Id.* at 49.

<sup>47</sup> Teresa Serratt, *California's Nurse-to-Patient Ratios, Part I: 8 Years Later, What Do We Know About Nurse-Level Outcome?*, 43 (9) *Journal of Nurse Administration*, 475-480, 478 (2013).

<sup>48</sup> See *id.* at 478.



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percent fewer for LPNs than would be expected without the law.<sup>49</sup> Related studies, cited by the authors, found that needle-stick injuries among nurses were twice as high in hospital units reported to be understaffed<sup>50</sup> and that repositioning and physically assisting patients without help, which may be more likely to occur in understaffed hospital units, contributed to back injuries.<sup>51</sup> The authors also noted that, among nurses, low job satisfaction has been found to be a strong predictor of back injuries.<sup>52</sup>

### **Patient Outcomes**

Studies have demonstrated that patient outcomes improve when nurses are assigned to attend to fewer patients. Researchers have found that when nurse staffing ratios are higher, patients generally experience shorter hospital stays, fewer complications, fewer readmissions, and less risk of death. A 2021 study observing eighty-seven acute care hospitals in Illinois found that in these hospitals, the odds of a patient's in-hospital death increased by sixteen percent for each additional patient in the nurse's workload.<sup>53</sup> The odds of a longer hospital stay increased by five percent for every additional patient.<sup>54</sup> The authors concluded that if the observed hospitals had used 4:1 nurse-to-patient ratios during the one-year study period, they might have avoided 1,595 deaths.<sup>55</sup>

Increased staffing has been shown to significantly reduce the risk of hospital-acquired infections.<sup>56</sup> These include catheter-related bloodstream infections, *Clostridium difficile* infections (C.diff), catheter-related urinary tract infections, Methicillin-resistant *S. aureus* (MRSA) infections, and surgical site infections.<sup>57</sup>

Higher nurse staffing ratios have also been shown to increase patient satisfaction, which may, in turn, impact clinical outcomes.<sup>58</sup> According to one study, hospitals with higher staffing levels experienced fewer instances of verbal abuse by patients and their family members.<sup>59</sup> Hospitals also saw improved patient compliance with treatment plans, which can result in lower rates of urinary tract infections, improved pain management, and fewer medication errors.<sup>60</sup>

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<sup>49</sup> See J. Paul Leigh, et al., *California's Nurse-to-Patient Ratio Law and Occupational Injury*, 88 *Int Arch Occup Environ Health*, 477-484, 477 (2015).

<sup>50</sup> See *id.* at 478 (citing SP Clarke, et al., *Effects of Hospital Staffing and Organizational Climate on Needlestick Injuries to Nurses*, 92(7) *Am J Public Health* 1115-1119 (2002)).

<sup>51</sup> See *id.* at 478 (citing YB Yip, *A Study of Work Stress, Patient Handling Activities and the Risk of Low Back Pain Among Nurses in Hong Kong*, 36(6) *J Adv Nurs* 794-804 (2001)).

<sup>52</sup> See *id.* at 478 (citing AE Ready et al., *Fitness and Lifestyle Parameters Fail to Predict Back Injuries in Nurses*, 18(1) *Can J Appl Physiol* 80-90 (1993)).

<sup>53</sup> See Karen B. Lasater, et al., *Patient Outcomes and Cost Savings Associated With Hospital Safe Nurse Staffing Legislation: An Observational Study*. *BMJ Open*. (November 2021).

<sup>54</sup> See *id.*

<sup>55</sup> See *id.*

<sup>56</sup> See Abbey Pirie Anderson, *Patient Protection and Registered Nurse Retention: Model Legislation Addressing Inadequate Registered Nurse Staffing in Hospitals*, 25(1) *Journal of Health Care Law and Policy* 91-132, 105 (2022).

<sup>57</sup> See *id.*

<sup>58</sup> See *id.* at 104.

<sup>59</sup> See *id.*

<sup>60</sup> See *id.*

An article published in the *Journal of the American Geriatrics Society* suggested that nurse staffing ratios may be especially important for patients of color, who historically suffer from poorer health outcomes.<sup>61</sup> The data reviewed by the authors showed that older surgical patients, and specifically older black surgical patients, had higher mortality rates than similarly situated white patients.<sup>62</sup> The authors argued that "[a]lthough . . . all patients are adversely affected by higher patient-to-nurse ratios, older black patients are more likely than white patients to suffer unfavorable outcomes when cared for by nurses with higher workloads and patient demands."<sup>63</sup> The authors attributed this difference to the black patients having complex comorbidities that required closer nurse surveillance.<sup>64</sup>

### Hospital Costs

Improved nurse staffing levels may reduce hospital readmissions, which in turn may provide some cost benefits for some hospitals. Under the Affordable Care Act's Hospital Readmissions Reduction Program, hospitals are financially penalized for certain "excess readmissions."<sup>65</sup> Hospitals are evaluated based on the number of readmissions during a thirty-day period for patients experiencing a heart attack, heart failure, pneumonia, hip or knee replacement, or chronic obstructive pulmonary disease.<sup>66</sup> If a hospital's readmission rates for these categories exceed the expected rates of readmission, as calculated by Medicare, the hospital's base inpatient payments may be reduced by up to three percent.<sup>67</sup>

A 2013 study published in *Health Affairs* found that hospitals having higher levels of registered nurse staffing were twenty-five percent less likely to be penalized under the Hospital Readmissions Reduction Program than similarly situated hospitals having fewer nurses.<sup>68</sup> The authors of the study attributed this finding to the fact that nurses are responsible for many of the evidence-based interventions that are associated with lower readmission rates.<sup>69</sup> These interventions include discharge preparation, complication surveillance and prevention, knowledge assessment, care coordination, and patient education.<sup>70</sup> The authors noted that reduced staffing can affect all of these aspects of care, stating that, "[w]hen nurses have excessive workloads . . . they cannot complete these important processes effectively, and they are more likely to leave this vital work undone because of competing priorities and a lack of staff and resources."<sup>71</sup>

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<sup>61</sup> See J. Margo Brooks Carthon, et al., *Nurse Staffing and Post Surgical Outcomes in Black Patients*, 60(6) J Am Geriatr Soc 1078-1084 (2012).

<sup>62</sup> See *id.* at 1.

<sup>63</sup> *Id.* at 7.

<sup>64</sup> See *id.*

<sup>65</sup> See American Hospital Association Factsheet, Hospital Readmissions Reduction Program, <https://www.aha.org/system/files/2018-01/fs-readmissions.pdf>.

<sup>66</sup> See *id.*

<sup>67</sup> See *id.*

<sup>68</sup> See Matthew D. McHugh, et al., *Hospitals with Higher Nurse Staffing Had Lower Odds of Readmissions Penalties Than Hospitals with Lower Staffing*, 32 Health Affairs 1740-1747, 1740 (2013).

<sup>69</sup> See *id.* at 1744.

<sup>70</sup> See *id.*

<sup>71</sup> *Id.*

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However, despite savings from reduced patient readmissions, studies have found that higher staffing ratios may also increase hospitals' labor costs. A 2013 study looking at the outcome of California's staffing mandate found that hospitals' labor costs were higher after the implementation of staffing ratios.<sup>72</sup> In a survey of twenty-three executives from twelve California hospitals, "respondents indicated costs associated with labor such as recruitment bonuses, training for new staff, and increased use of temporary staff increased after the implementation of the staffing ratios."<sup>73</sup> Other studies have found that after implementing mandated staffing ratios, the operating margins for California's hospitals declined significantly.<sup>74</sup> The Bureau found no articles comparing the cost of implementing staffing ratios with costs saved through nurse retention, patient satisfaction, and other factors. According to the authors of one study, "the larger and so far unanswered question is whether the incremental increases in quality are worth the cost."<sup>75</sup>

### **Evaluating Outcomes: The Efficacy of State-Mandated Nurse Staffing Ratios**

Because California's mandated nurse staffing ratios have been in effect since 2004, researchers have used California as a model for evaluating whether staffing ratios should be legislated in other states. However, the literature reviewed by the Bureau provided contradictory opinions on whether the California law has successfully increased nurse staffing levels. A 2007 study argued that "California's shortage has been exacerbated by [the] enactment of legislation that took effect from January 1, 2004, mandating minimum licensed nurse staffing ratios in all hospitals."<sup>76</sup> However, the author did not provide a source for that statement or any further analysis.

Conversely, some studies have concluded that the nurse staffing legislation has improved California's nursing workforce shortage and reduced nursing shortages experienced by individual hospitals. One study found that "[m]ost California nurses, bedside nurses as well as managers, believe the ratio legislation achieved its goals of reducing nurse workloads, improving recruitment and retention of nurses, and having a favorable impact on quality of care."<sup>77</sup> Citing a 2008 article by the Sacramento Business Journal, a National Nurse United publication found that "[v]acancies for RNs at Sacramento-area hospitals plummeted 69 percent since early 2004 when the ratios were first implemented," and that "[t]hroughout the state, many of California's biggest hospital systems

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<sup>72</sup> See Teresa Serratt, *California's Nurse-to-Patient Ratios, Part 2: 8 Years Later, What Do We Know About Hospital Level Outcomes?*, 43(10) *Journal of Nursing Administration* 549-553, 549 (2013).

<sup>73</sup> *Id.* at 550.

<sup>74</sup> See Barbara A. Mark, et al., *California's Minimum Nurse Staffing Legislation: Results from a Natural Experiment*, 48:2 *Health Services Research* 435-454, 451 (April 2013).

<sup>75</sup> *Id.* at 451.

<sup>76</sup> Linda H. Aiken, *U.S. Nurse Labor Market Dynamics Are Key to Global Nurse Sufficiency*, 42 (3) *Health Services Research*, 1299, 1308 (2007), <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC1955371/pdf/hesr0042-1299.pdf>

<sup>77</sup> Linda H. Aiken, et al., *Implications of the California Nurse Staffing Mandate for Other States*, 45 (4) *Health Services Research*, 904 (2010), <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC2908200/pdf/hesr0045-0904.pdf>.

We note that this article was co-authored by the same author who, in 2007, found that California's legislation had exacerbated the state's nurse staffing shortage (see note 76). It is unclear whether the data on California's nurse staffing shortage changed significantly between 2007 and 2010 or whether there is another explanation for the author's change in position.

have seen their turnover and vacancy rates fall below 5 percent, far below the national average."<sup>78</sup> Additionally, the number of actively licensed registered nurses in California increased by an average of ten thousand per year, compared to under three thousand per year before the legislation, and registered nurse applications increased by sixty percent after the law was enacted.<sup>79</sup>

Accordingly, it appears that some evidence suggests that California's nurse staffing legislation has attracted nurses to California, forestalled early retirements, and helped to retain nurses who may have otherwise left the nursing field. However, the Bureau found no evidence definitively establishing that mandated staffing ratios are the best approach in every state.

### **Staffing Committees: An Alternative Approach to Mandated Staffing Ratios**

As an alternative to mandating specific nurse staffing ratios, some states require healthcare facilities to form staffing committees to determine the facility's nurse staffing needs.<sup>80</sup> This approach has been supported by the Partners for Nurse Staffing's Nurse Staffing Task Force. The Task Force recommended that health care facilities "[e]stablish empowered professional governance committees that include direct-care nurses and have authority to create and sustain flexible staffing approaches."<sup>81</sup>

As currently used, most staffing committees operate on either a hospital-wide or per-unit basis.<sup>82</sup> In addition to determining staffing ratios or staffing levels, some committees address other issues, like nurse retention, patient safety, and workplace systems.<sup>83</sup> Most states mandating staffing committees specify that nurses should comprise at least fifty percent of the committees' members.<sup>84</sup> Most committees also include nurse managers, nurse executives, and non-nurse hospital executives.<sup>85</sup> Staffing committees vary in whether they are empowered to make decisions or just recommendations.<sup>86</sup>

One benefit of this approach for direct care nurses is that it, arguably, gives the nurses a voice in facility staffing decisions. One study found that "[p]atient outcomes . . . improve when nurses are structurally empowered to act autonomously and be involved in hospital policy and procedure formulation."<sup>87</sup> The study's authors called staffing committees "a compromise to improve patient outcomes while maintaining flexibility in hospital profit margins" but warned that in states with mandated staffing committees, some hospitals have failed to comply with the

<sup>78</sup> *RN Staffing Ratios A Necessary Solution to the Patient Safety Crisis in U.S. Hospitals*, National Nurses United, 14, (2023) [https://www.nationalnursesunited.org/sites/default/files/nnu/documents/1123\\_Ratios\\_Booklet\\_NNU.pdf](https://www.nationalnursesunited.org/sites/default/files/nnu/documents/1123_Ratios_Booklet_NNU.pdf).

<sup>79</sup> *See id.*

<sup>80</sup> *See* table in chapter 3.

<sup>81</sup> Nurse Staffing Task Force Imperatives, Recommendations, and Actions, *supra* note 16.

<sup>82</sup> *See* Marissa Bartmess, et al., *Original Research: A Real 'Voice' or 'Lip Service'? Experiences of Staff Nurses Who Have Served on Staffing Committees*, 124(2) *American Journal of Nursing*, 20-31, 23 (2024).

<sup>83</sup> *See id.* at 24.

<sup>84</sup> *See* Col. Rev. Stat. § 25-3-128 (2); Conn. Gen. Stat. § 19a-89e(c); and 210 Ill. Comp. Stat. 85/10.10(d)(1).

<sup>85</sup> *See* Bartmess, et al., *supra* note 82 at 23.

<sup>86</sup> *See id.* at 24.

<sup>87</sup> *See* Marissa Bartmess, et al., *Nurse Staffing Legislation: Empirical Evidence and Policy Analysis*, 56 *Nursing Forum*, 600-675, 670 (2021).

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mandates.<sup>88</sup> Consequently, the authors felt that "further political intervention may be necessary after the policy is implemented."<sup>89</sup>

Staffing committees can also be formed through nurses' contract negotiations, rather than by state mandate. For example, in October 2024, the Hawaii Nurses' Association agreed to a new, committee-based staffing plan for nurses at Kapiolani Medical Center for Women and Children.<sup>90</sup> Although the plan includes unit-based and acuity-based nurse staffing ratios, the ratios are not fixed and may be adjusted by a Staffing Council.<sup>91</sup> The Council will comprise direct care nurses and nurse leaders, who will meet monthly to discuss nurse staffing issues and will annually review the units' nurse staffing ratios.<sup>92</sup> The Council will also implement a "staffing and acuity tool," to help determine nurse staffing needs.<sup>93</sup>

The overall success of staffing committees may depend on how the committees are implemented. In Illinois, where "Nursing Care Committees" have been legally mandated since 2007, research suggests that the committees may lack efficacy or enforcement. A survey conducted in 2022 and 2023 by the Illinois Economic Policy Institute and the Project for Middle Class Renewal at the University of Illinois found that almost forty-five percent of the Illinois nurses surveyed were unaware that the staffing committees existed.<sup>94</sup> Additionally, more than forty-five percent of nurses surveyed said that the committees' recommended staffing levels were used less than twenty-five percent of the time.<sup>95</sup> Sixty-one percent said that the committees' recommended staffing levels were not based on patients' needs.<sup>96</sup>

In a 2024 study published in the *American Journal of Nursing*, authors interviewed fourteen staff nurses from five states on their experiences with nurse staffing committees.<sup>97</sup> Based on the interviews, the authors made four recommendations to help ensure that staffing committees provided nurses with meaningful representation. First, they recommended consideration of the committee's *structure and scope*.<sup>98</sup> Nurses generally reported feeling like they had more autonomy and representation in unit-level staffing committees. The authors also noted that any legislation requiring the use of staffing committees should be clear on the extent of the committees' decision-making authority.<sup>99</sup> Some nurses interviewed expressed frustration that they could

<sup>88</sup> *Id.*

<sup>89</sup> *Id.*

<sup>90</sup> See Hawaii Pacific Health, *We Are Moving Forward Together*, <http://www.hawaiipacifichealth.org/kapiolani/hna-negotiations>.

<sup>91</sup> *See id.*

<sup>92</sup> *See id.*

<sup>93</sup> *See id.*

<sup>94</sup> See Jessica Nye, *Unsafe Nurse-to-Patient Ratios Cited as Main Reason Many Are Leaving Field*, *Clinical Advisor* (Mar. 12 2024).

<sup>95</sup> *See id.*

<sup>96</sup> *See id.*

<sup>97</sup> The study's authors note that twelve of the nurses interviewed had served on staffing committees for one to five years, and two participants had served for six years or longer. See Bartmess et al., *supra* note 82 at 23. The authors do not disclose which five states the interviewed nurses were from but note that selection criteria required participants to be from one of the following states: Connecticut, Illinois, Nevada, Ohio, Oregon, Texas, or Washington. *See id.* at 22.

<sup>98</sup> *See id.* at 23.

<sup>99</sup> *See id.* at 30.

provide input on some issues but not others, based on the hospital's interpretations of their state's mandate.<sup>100</sup> Second, the authors recommended consideration of the committee's *benefits to nurses and patients*.<sup>101</sup> Nurses reported more satisfaction with their committees' work when they were allowed to advocate for policies that would support patient safety.<sup>102</sup> Third, they recommended a *holistic consideration of staffing factors*.<sup>103</sup> Nurses argued that staffing ratios could offer a starting point but should be flexible, taking into account patient acuity, care intensity, nurses' experience level, and other factors.<sup>104</sup> Finally, the authors recommended that nurses' *roles and frustrations* be taken into account when structuring staffing committees.<sup>105</sup> Nurses serving on the committees saw themselves as unit liaisons and collaborators in developing safe nurse staffing standards.<sup>106</sup> They expressed frustration with "vague" staffing laws that weren't adequately enforced, unsupportive or uncompromising leadership, and the "'slow' process of change." The authors concluded that "the state laws that govern nurse staffing committees should be enforceable and evaluable, while committee practices should contribute to positive patient, nurse, and organizational outcomes; otherwise, they're just another form of paying lip service to change."<sup>107</sup>

### **Assessing Alternatives: The Efficacy of State-Mandated Nurse Staffing Committees**

In the 2024 *American Journal of Nursing* study, the authors noted that "[t]here has been little quantitative research in the area of nurse staffing committees, particularly with regard to the impact of state-mandated committees on nurse, patient, and hospital system outcomes."<sup>108</sup> Although one study found that, after Texas mandated staffing committees in 2002, RN employment and the ratio of nurses to patients improved, the authors noted that hospitals may have hired more nurses in response to worsening patient acuity, rather than at the recommendation of staffing committees.<sup>109</sup> A separate, multistate study conducted in 2021 found that although staffing levels increased in states that enacted staffing committee mandates, the increases were not statistically significant, when compared with states lacking mandates.<sup>110</sup>

The Bureau found no literature discussing the outcomes when staffing committees are voluntarily implemented by hospitals or negotiated by nurses and collective bargaining units, instead of being mandated by the state.

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<sup>100</sup> See *id.* at 24.

<sup>101</sup> See *id.* at 25-26.

<sup>102</sup> See *id.* at 27-28.

<sup>103</sup> See *id.* at 26.

<sup>104</sup> See *id.*

<sup>105</sup> See *id.* at 27-28.

<sup>106</sup> See *id.* at 27-28.

<sup>107</sup> *Id.* at 30.

<sup>108</sup> *Id.* at 21.

<sup>109</sup> See Terry Jones, et al., *Texas Nurse Staffing Trends Before and After Mandated Nurse Staffing Committees*, 16(3-4) Policy Polit. Nurs. Pract. 79-96 (2015).

<sup>110</sup> See Bartmess, et al., *supra* note 82 at 21-22 (citing Han X, et al., *Alternative Approaches to Ensuring Adequate Nurse Staffing: The Effect of State Legislation on Hospital Nurse Staffing*, Med Care 2021; 59 (Suppl 5): S463-S470).



## Workplace Management: Additional Practices That May Improve Nurse Staffing

Articles reviewed by the Bureau suggested additional practices that may help to improve nurse staffing. Some of these practices are controversial, and some are mentioned only briefly in the literature without much evidentiary support. Although this report addresses these practices as possible parts of a multi-faceted approach to improving nurse staffing, the Bureau expresses no opinion on whether the practices are effective, advisable, or feasible.

### Team Nursing

"Team nursing" or "team-based care" is an approach supported by some academics and nurse advocacy groups<sup>111</sup> and highly criticized by others.<sup>112</sup> The term "team nursing" appears to be defined differently by its opponents than by its supporters. Advocates for the approach say that it involves "developing models consisting of an array of professionals such as pharmacists, respiratory therapists, virtual care nurses, and advanced practice providers, among others."<sup>113</sup> They argue that this approach allows front-line nurses to focus on patients who have more complex needs.<sup>114</sup> Opponents suggest that the model "is designed with significantly fewer RNs supervising lower-wage personnel such as nurses' aides and [LPNs] to provide most of the direct care to patients."<sup>115</sup> They argue that it involves "not a multidisciplinary team of professionals, which research shows enhances patient outcomes, but substitutes lower-wage workers for RNs, the effect of which is a reduction of RN care to patients."<sup>116</sup>

Using data on patient outcomes and nursing skill mix, a 2024 study published in *Medical Care* found that, among more than six million Medicare patients in critical care hospitals nationally, a ten percent reduction in patient care by RNs was associated with a seven percent increase in the patients' odds of in-hospital death, one percent higher odds of readmission, two percent increase in expected length of stay, and lower measures of patient satisfaction.<sup>117</sup> However, the American Organization for Nursing Leadership has criticized this study, arguing that it "is undermined by the authors' heavy reliance on some of their own previously published research in favor of RN staffing ratios, and underplays other factors that would influence these

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<sup>111</sup> See American Organization for Nursing Leadership. *Misleading Research Fuels Unnecessary Fears About Innovative Health Care Advancements*. June 26, 2024, <https://www.aonl.org/press-releases/misleading-research-fuels-unnecessary-fears-about-innovative-health-care-advancements> ; see also <https://www.aha.org/news/blog/2024-06-26-setting-record-straight-make-believe-model-stokes-unfounded-fears-team-based-care>.

<sup>112</sup> See Karen B. Lasater, et al., *Alternative Models of Nurse Staffing May Be Dangerous in High-Stakes Hospital Care*. 62:7 *Medical Care*, 434-440 (July 2024).

<sup>113</sup> American Organization for Nursing Leadership, *supra* note 111.

<sup>114</sup> See *id.*

<sup>115</sup> Lasater, et. al., *supra* note 112 at 434.

<sup>116</sup> *Id.*

<sup>117</sup> See *id.*

outcomes, such as the expertise and experience of the clinicians delivering care, patient acuity, and the organization's overall care model[.]"<sup>118</sup>

In the United Kingdom, where hospitals also experience nurse staffing shortages, a study examined the association between reduced RN care and patient mortality.<sup>119</sup> The authors noted that team nursing, including the use of greater numbers of nursing assistants, is more common in the United Kingdom than in the United States.<sup>120</sup> They found that "[f]or each day that a patient spent on a ward with RN staffing below the mean for that ward, the hazard of death was increased by 3%."<sup>121</sup> The authors concluded that "[w]hile nursing assistants also have an important part to play in maintaining the safety of hospital wards, they cannot act as substitutes for RNs. When assessing staffing requirements . . . RN and assistant hours should not be treated as equivalent."<sup>122</sup>

A study of hospitals in Australia similarly found that staffing requirements should not be met by substituting nurse assistants for nurses.<sup>123</sup> The authors of the study found "significantly higher rates of . . . failure to rescue,<sup>124</sup> [urinary tract infections], and falls with injury on wards that introduced nursing assistants."<sup>125</sup>

### Reporting Requirements

Some states require hospitals to publicly report their staffing ratios for RNs, LPNs, and other nursing personnel. These requirements are intended to facilitate informed decision-making by the public and to put market pressures on understaffed hospitals.<sup>126</sup> However, there appears to be very little evidence that reporting laws reduce nurse staffing shortages. One 2021 study found "a very small positive association of public reporting approach laws and RN staffing," but found that it was not statistically significant.<sup>127</sup> The authors concluded that "for states unable or unwilling to mandate ratios, it is possible that there could be a small benefit of public reporting."<sup>128</sup>

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<sup>118</sup> American Organization for Nursing Leadership, *supra* note 111.

<sup>119</sup> See Peter Griffiths, et al., *Nurse Staffing, Nursing Assistants, and Hospital Mortality: Retrospective Longitudinal Cohort Study*. *BMJ Qual Saf* 2019;28, 609-617.

<sup>120</sup> See *id.* at 610.

<sup>121</sup> *Id.* at 612.

<sup>122</sup> *Id.* at 616.

<sup>123</sup> See Christine Duffield, et al., *Uncovering the Disconnect Between Nursing Workforce Policy Intentions, Implementation, and Outcomes: Lessons Learned from the Addition of a Nursing Assistant Role*, 20(4) *Policy, Politics & Nursing Practice*, 228-238 (2019).

<sup>124</sup> "Failure to rescue" is defined as the inability to prevent a patient's death after the patient develops a complication. See Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, *Failure to Rescue*, September 7, 2019, <https://psnet.ahrq.gov/primer/failure-rescue>.

<sup>125</sup> Duffield, et al., *supra* note 123 at 232.

<sup>126</sup> See Xinxin Han, et al. *Alternative Approaches to Ensuring Adequate Nurse Staffing*, 59 *Med Care* S463-S470 (October 2021).

<sup>127</sup> *Id.* at S468.

<sup>128</sup> *Id.* at S469.



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Another study found that a lack of consistency may limit the usefulness of public reporting. Looking at all states where public reporting is required, or is done voluntarily,<sup>129</sup> the authors found that "there is no standardization for how the states publicly report, nor how consumer friendly the reports may be; therefore, consumers may not have the ability to simply compare hospitals."<sup>130</sup> The authors argued that "although the states should be commended for attempting to provide transparency of staffing information, these data were not necessarily meaningful for a consumer who may be unknowledgeable about appropriate staffing."<sup>131</sup> They recommended that states wanting to enact public reporting legislation ensure that the laws require uniformity; public accessibility; and clarity, with defined terminology and no medical jargon.<sup>132</sup>

### **Pay-for-Performance Systems**

A 2015 paper on the correlation between nurse staffing and patient mortality noted that, in South Korea, the government provides financial incentives for hospitals to maintain high nurse staffing ratios.<sup>133</sup> The hospitals are assigned a grade from one (highest) to seven (lowest), based on their nurse staffing levels.<sup>134</sup> South Korea's National Health Insurance pays higher fees for inpatient nursing care to hospitals with higher nurse staffing standards.<sup>135</sup> The authors noted that, although many hospitals in South Korea had improved their nurse staffing since the policy was implemented in 1999, almost sixty percent of the country's acute care hospitals still received the lowest grade for being understaffed.<sup>136</sup>

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<sup>129</sup> See Appendix B.

<sup>130</sup> Pamela B. de Cordova, *Public Reporting of Nurse Staffing in the United States*, 10 (3) J. Nursing Reg., 14-20 (2019). Citations are to the author's manuscript, available at <https://pmc.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/articles/PMC6996505/pdf/nihms-1067311.pdf>.

<sup>131</sup> *Id.* at 7.

<sup>132</sup> See *id.* at 8.

<sup>133</sup> See Eunhee Cho, et al., *Effects of Nurse Staffing, Work Environments, and Education on Patient Mortality: An Observational Study*, 52(2) International Journal of Nurse Studies, 535-542 (2015). Citations are to the author's manuscript, available at <https://pmc.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/articles/PMC4286441/pdf/nihms625887.pdf>.

<sup>134</sup> See *id.* at 7-8.

<sup>135</sup> See *id.* at 7.

<sup>136</sup> See *id.* at 7-8.

## Chapter 3

### EXISTING NURSING STAFFING STANDARDS AND REGULATIONS IN OTHER STATES

#### Introduction

Existing nursing staffing standards and regulations in other states can generally be categorized into six general types of requirements:<sup>1</sup>

- (1) Requirements for sufficient or adequate staffing;
- (2) Requirements to have one or more nurses on duty all day or for a portion of a day;<sup>2</sup>
- (3) Requirements for a minimum nurse staffing with minimum nurse-to-patient ratios or minimum number of hours per resident per day for a nurse;<sup>3</sup>
- (4) Requirements for a staffing committee to set a nurse-to-patient ratio, number of nurse hours per resident per day, or another similar standard;
- (5) Requirements for the health care facility to publicly report nurse staffing levels; and
- (6) Requirements prohibiting or limiting mandatory overtime.

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<sup>1</sup> This study does not discuss staffing requirements applicable to nurse assistants and other staff that are generally not a "nurse," as defined by Haw. Rev. Stat. § 457-2 ("Nurse" means a person licensed under this chapter or a person who holds a license under the laws of another state or territory of the United States that is equivalent to a license under this chapter. ").

<sup>2</sup> Many states require that the Director of Nursing of a hospital or a comparable position be a registered nurse. *See, e.g.,* Neb. Rev. Stat. §§ 71-6018.01 and 71-6018.02 ("The Director of Nursing Services shall be a licensed registered nurse[.]") <https://nebraskalegislature.gov/laws/statutes.php?statute=71-6018.01> and <https://nebraskalegislature.gov/laws/statutes.php?statute=71-6018.02>. Since the director or other head of nursing is generally not considered a "staff," we have not included those provisions in this report.

<sup>3</sup> Many states also require the availability a staff member, which may be fulfilled by a nurse or non-nurse. We have not included a summary of those requirements here since they do not specifically require at least one nurse. Similarly, we have generally not included a summary of states that require that healthcare facilities provide "nursing services," which generally means services provided by nurses and non-nurse staff. However, we have included portions of those requirements that specifically require a nurse to provide a portion of those services (*e.g.,* if a state requires twenty-four-hour nursing services with a nurse providing each patient with thirty minutes per day of services, we included the portion specifically addressing the nurse services).

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Hawaii appears to apply two of the above general requirements, namely sufficient staffing and requiring a nurse on duty for all or some of the day. In Hawaii, each skilled nursing facility<sup>4</sup> and intermediate care facility<sup>5</sup> must "have nursing staff sufficient in number and qualifications to meet the nursing needs of the residents"<sup>6</sup> and have "at least one registered nurse<sup>7</sup> at work full-time on the day shift, for eight consecutive hours, seven days a week, and at least one licensed nurse<sup>8</sup> at work on the evening and night shifts, unless otherwise determined by the department."<sup>9</sup>

The table below summarizes state implementation of the six nurse staffing requirements described above. A summary of each state's requirements is provided in the following sections.

	Sufficient or Adequate Staffing	Nurse on Duty	Set Nurse Ratios	Staffing Committee	Report on Staffing Levels	No Mandatory overtime
Alabama	✓	✓				
Alaska		✓				✓
Arizona	✓					
Arkansas		✓	✓			
California			✓			✓
Colorado	✓	✓		✓		
Connecticut			✓	✓		✓
Delaware			✓			
District of Columbia		✓	✓			
Florida			✓			
Georgia			✓			
Hawaii	✓	✓				
Idaho						
Illinois		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Indiana			✓			
Iowa		✓	✓			
Kansas		✓				
Kentucky	✓	✓				
Louisiana						
Maine						✓

<sup>4</sup> In Hawaii, "skilled nursing facility" means "a health facility that provides skilled nursing and related services to residents who require twenty-four hour a day medical or nursing care, or rehabilitation services, including but not limited to physical therapy, occupational therapy, and speech therapy services." Haw. Code. R. § 11-94.2-2 (2022), <https://health.hawaii.gov/opppd/files/2022/10/11-94.2-2022.pdf#page=9>.

<sup>5</sup> In Hawaii, "intermediate care facility" means "a health facility to which a physician has referred individuals who do not need twenty-four hour a day skilled nursing care but who do require the following services for appropriate care:

- (A) Twenty-four hours a day assistance with the normal activities of daily living; and
- (B) Care provided by licensed nursing and paramedical personnel on a regular, long-term basis."

*Id.*

<sup>6</sup> Haw. Code. R. § 11-94.2-39(a) (2022), <https://health.hawaii.gov/opppd/files/2022/10/11-94.2-2022.pdf#page=37>.

<sup>7</sup> For a discussion of registered nurses, licensed practical nurses, and advanced practice registered nurses, see Chapter 4.

<sup>8</sup> "Licensed nurse" is not defined by Hawaii statute or administrative rule, but appears to mean any individual licensed under Chapter 457, Hawaii Revised Statutes, the chapter setting forth licensure requirements for nurses.

<sup>9</sup> *Id.*

## EXISTING NURSING STAFFING STANDARDS AND REGULATIONS IN OTHER STATES

	Sufficient or Adequate Staffing	Nurse on Duty	Set Nurse Ratios	Staffing Committee	Report on Staffing Levels	No Mandatory overtime
Maryland			✓			✓
Massachusetts			✓		✓	✓
Michigan		✓				
Minnesota		✓			✓	✓
Mississippi		✓				
Missouri	✓	✓				✓
Montana		✓				
Nebraska	✓					
Nevada		✓		✓		
New Hampshire		✓				✓
New Jersey		✓			✓	✓
New Mexico	✓					
New York			✓	✓	✓	✓
North Carolina		✓				
North Dakota	✓					
Ohio	✓			✓		
Oklahoma		✓				
Oregon			✓			✓
Pennsylvania		✓	✓			✓
Rhode Island	✓	✓				✓
South Carolina	✓	✓				
South Dakota		✓				
Tennessee		✓				
Texas	✓	✓		✓		✓
Utah			✓			
Vermont		✓			✓	
Virginia	✓					
Washington		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
West Virginia	✓	✓	✓			✓
Wisconsin			✓			
Wyoming		✓				
<b>Total:</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>18</b>

### Requirements for Sufficient or Adequate Staffing

Fourteen other states require one or more types of healthcare facilities to provide sufficient, adequate, or similar nurse staffing.<sup>10</sup> These states generally leave the specifics of staffing levels to the discretion of the facilities. Many states also combine the requirement to have adequate staffing with the requirement to have at least one nurse on duty (discussed in the next section).

<sup>10</sup> In addition to state requirements, federal regulations (42 C.F.R. § 482.23(b) (2024)) require that "[t]he nursing service [at hospitals] must have adequate numbers of licensed registered nurses, licensed practical (vocational) nurses, and other personnel to provide nursing care to all patients as needed" to participate in Medicare. <https://www.ecfr.gov/current/title-42/chapter-IV/subchapter-G/part-482/subpart-C/section-482.23>.

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- Alabama requires that:
  - Hospitals have adequate numbers of licensed registered nurses, licensed practical nurses, and other personnel to provide nursing care to all patients as needed.<sup>11</sup>
  - Nursing facilities provide services by a sufficient number of licensed nurses in accordance with resident care plans.<sup>12</sup>
- Arizona requires that hospitals have "a process for obtaining sufficient nursing personnel to meet the needs of patients[.]"<sup>13</sup>
- Connecticut requires that chronic and convalescent nursing homes and rest homes with nursing supervision:
  - Employ sufficient nurses to provide appropriate care to patients housed in the facility 24 hours a day;<sup>14</sup> and
  - Have a minimum of one registered nurse on duty at all times.<sup>15</sup>
- Kentucky requires that health care facilities have a "staffing plan that specifies staffing levels of licensed and unlicensed personnel required to safely and consistently meet the performance and clinical outcomes-based standards as outlined in the facility's or service's quality improvement plan[.]"<sup>16</sup>
- Missouri requires that hospitals, ambulatory surgical centers, and abortion facilities:
  - Develop and implement a methodology that "ensures adequate nurse staffing that will meet the needs of patients";<sup>17</sup> and

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<sup>11</sup> See Ala. Admin. Code r. 420-5-7-.11(3) (2023), <https://admincode.legislature.state.al.us/administrative-code/420-5-7-.11>.

<sup>12</sup> See Ala. Admin. Code r. 420-5-10-.11 (2023), <https://admincode.legislature.state.al.us/administrative-code/420-5-10-.11>.

<sup>13</sup> Ariz. Admin. Code § R9-10-203(C)(2)(d) (2021), [https://apps.azsos.gov/public\\_services/Title\\_09/9-10.pdf#page=42](https://apps.azsos.gov/public_services/Title_09/9-10.pdf#page=42).

<sup>14</sup> See Conn. Agencies Regs. § 19-13-D8t(m)(1) (2023), <https://eregulations.ct.gov/eRegsPortal/Browse/getDocument?guid=%7bA5561062-AB9F-4B60-833E-D75A4D74023C%7d#page=15>.

<sup>15</sup> See Conn. Agencies Regs. § 19-13-D8t(m)(4). (2023), <https://eregulations.ct.gov/eRegsPortal/Browse/getDocument?guid=%7bA5561062-AB9F-4B60-833E-D75A4D74023C%7d#page=15>.

<sup>16</sup> See Ky. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 216B.160(5) (2022), <https://apps.legislature.ky.gov/law/statutes/statute.aspx?id=52541>.

<sup>17</sup> Mo. Rev. Stat. § 197.289 (2023), <https://revisor.mo.gov/main/OneSection.aspx?section=197.289&bid=34858>.

## EXISTING NURSING STAFFING STANDARDS AND REGULATIONS IN OTHER STATES

- Have "on duty at all times a sufficient number of licensed registered nurses to provide patient care requiring the judgment and skills of a licensed registered nurse and to oversee the activities of all nursing personnel."<sup>18</sup>
- Nebraska requires that:
  - Skilled nursing facilities, nursing facilities, and intermediate care facilities provide sufficient nursing staff on a 24-hour basis to provide nursing care to all residents in accordance with resident care plans;<sup>19</sup> and
  - Skilled nursing facilities and nursing facilities to use the services of a registered nurse for at least 8 consecutive hours per day, unless otherwise waived.<sup>20</sup>
- New Mexico requires that acute care hospitals, limited services hospitals, and special hospitals have an adequate number of professional registered nurses on duty at all times to meet the nursing care needs of the patients.<sup>21</sup>
- North Dakota requires that nursing facilities have sufficient qualified nursing personnel on duty at all times to meet the nursing care needs of the residents, with a minimum of:
  - One registered nurse on duty 8 consecutive hours per day, 7 days a week; and
  - One licensed nurse on duty and designated to oversee the staff 24 hours a day.<sup>22</sup>
- Ohio requires that:
  - Pediatric intensive care units have nursing-to-patient ratios sufficient to accommodate the acuity level and volume of patients, ranging from 1:1 to 1:3 and adjusted as needed;<sup>23</sup>
  - Open heart surgery service units have an appropriate number of scrub and circulating nurses, with at least one of each;<sup>24</sup>

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<sup>18</sup> *Id.*

<sup>19</sup> See 175 Neb. Admin. Code § 12-006.04(D) (2024), <https://rules.nebraska.gov/rules?agencyId=37&titleId=104>.

<sup>20</sup> See Neb. Rev. Stat. §§ 71-6018.01 and 71-6018.02, <https://nebraskalegislature.gov/laws/statutes.php?statute=71-6018.01> and <https://nebraskalegislature.gov/laws/statutes.php?statute=71-6018.02>.

<sup>21</sup> See N.M. Code R. § 8.370.12.27(C)(1) (2024), <https://www.srca.nm.gov/parts/title08/08.370.0012.html>.

<sup>22</sup> See N.D. Admin Code 33-07-03.2-14 (2023), <https://ndlegis.gov/information/acdata/pdf/33-07-03.2.pdf#page=10>.

<sup>23</sup> See Ohio Admin. Code 3701-84-62(H) (2023), <https://codes.ohio.gov/ohio-administrative-code/rule-3701-84-62>.

<sup>24</sup> See Ohio Admin. Code 3701-84-37(C)(3) (2023), <https://codes.ohio.gov/ohio-administrative-code/rule-3701-84-37>.

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- Cardiac surgical intensive care units "be staffed at the appropriate nurse patient ratio commensurate with the acuity of the patients and the amount of time following surgery that such care is necessary";<sup>25</sup> and
- Pediatric cardiovascular surgery service units have:
  - Appropriate numbers of scrub nurses or technicians and circulating nurses or technicians, with a minimum of one scrub nurse and one circulating nurse or technician alternative; and
  - An appropriate nurse-to-patient ratio commensurate with the acuity of each individual patient and the amount of time following surgery that such care will be necessary.<sup>26</sup>
- Rhode Island requires that nursing facilities have:
  - The necessary nursing service personnel; and
  - A registered nurse on the premises 24 hours a day.<sup>27</sup>
- South Carolina requires that licensed nursing homes have an adequate number of licensed nurses on duty to meet the total nursing needs of the residents.<sup>28</sup>
- Texas requires that nursing facilities provide a sufficient number of nurses on a 24-hour basis to provide nursing care to all residents in accordance with resident care plans.<sup>29</sup> However, this requirement may be waived by the state of Texas if the facility cannot recruit appropriate personnel and satisfies various requirements to ensure patient safety and care.<sup>30</sup>
- Virginia requires that nursing facilities "provide qualified nurses and certified nurse aides on all shifts, 7 days per week, in sufficient number to meet the assessed nursing care needs of all residents."<sup>31</sup>

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<sup>25</sup> Ohio Admin. Code 3701-84-37(C)(4) (2023).

<sup>26</sup> See Ohio Admin. Code 3701-84-82(C)(3) and (4) (2023), <https://codes.ohio.gov/ohio-administrative-code/rule-3701-84-82>.

<sup>27</sup> See R.I. Gen. Laws § 23-17.5-32(a) (2021), <http://webserver.rilin.state.ri.us/Statutes/TITLE23/23-17.5/23-17.5-32.htm>.

<sup>28</sup> See S.C. Code Ann. Regs. 61-17-605(A) (2016), <https://scdhec.gov/sites/default/files/Library/Regulations/R.61-17.pdf#page=23>.

<sup>29</sup> See 26 Tex. Admin. Code § 554.1001(a)(1)(A)(i) (2024), [https://texreg.sos.state.tx.us/public/readtac\\$ext.TacPage?sl=R&app=9&p\\_dir=&p\\_rloc=&p\\_tloc=&p\\_ploc=&pg=1&p\\_tac=&ti=26&pt=1&ch=554&rl=1001](https://texreg.sos.state.tx.us/public/readtac$ext.TacPage?sl=R&app=9&p_dir=&p_rloc=&p_tloc=&p_ploc=&pg=1&p_tac=&ti=26&pt=1&ch=554&rl=1001).

<sup>30</sup> See 26 Tex. Admin. Code § 554.1001(a)(5)(A).

<sup>31</sup> 12 Va. Code Ann. § 5-371-210(B) (2023), <https://law.lis.virginia.gov/admincode/title12/agency5/chapter371/section210/>.

- West Virginia requires that nursing homes provide "necessary care and services[.]"<sup>32</sup>

### **Requirements to Have One Nurse on Duty All Day or For a Portion of a Day**

Twenty-nine states require that each healthcare facility have a nurse on duty at all times or for a particular number of hours per day. Generally, the requirement does not take into account the number of patients or residents, although some states have incremental requirements for facilities to have one additional nurse on duty for each additional block of fifty to one hundred patients.

- Alabama requires that:
  - Hospitals provide 24-hour nursing services;<sup>33</sup> and
  - Nursing facilities use the service of a registered nurse for at least 8 consecutive hours per day.<sup>34</sup>
- Alaska requires that nursing facilities:
  - Having 60 occupied beds or less:
    - For the day shift, have a registered nurse on duty 7 days a week;
    - For the evening shift, have a registered nurse on duty 5 days a week; and
    - For the night shift and the remaining 2 days of the evening shift, a licensed practical nurse must be on duty if a registered nurse is not on duty;<sup>35</sup>
  - Having more than 60 occupied beds:
    - For the day shift, 2 registered nurses on duty; and
    - For the evening and night shifts, 1 registered nurse on duty;<sup>36</sup> and

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<sup>32</sup> W. Va. Code R. § 64-13-8.1 (2021), <https://apps.sos.wv.gov/adlaw/csr/readfile.aspx?DocId=54121&Format=PDF#page=39>.

<sup>33</sup> See Ala. Admin. Code r. 420-5-7-.11(1) (2023), <https://admincode.legislature.state.al.us/administrative-code/420-5-7-.11>.

<sup>34</sup> See Ala. Admin. Code r. 420-5-10-.11(2)(a) (2023), <https://admincode.legislature.state.al.us/administrative-code/420-5-10-.11>.

<sup>35</sup> See Alaska Admin. Code tit. 7 § 12.275(a) (2023), <https://www.akleg.gov/basis/aac.asp#7.12.275>.

<sup>36</sup> See Alaska Admin. Code tit. 7 § 12.275(b).



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- That share the same building as a hospital:
  - For the day shift, a registered nurse must be on duty 7 days a week;
  - For the evening and night shifts, a licensed practical nurse must be on duty, with a registered nurse from the hospital available to make rounds at the nursing facility and be available as needed; provided that a nursing facility with 14 or fewer occupied beds may use an on-duty registered nurse from the hospital to meet the night shift nurse staffing requirement.<sup>37</sup>
- Arizona requires that nursing care institutions have a minimum nurse-to-resident ratio of 1 to 64.<sup>38</sup>
- Colorado requires that nursing care facilities:
  - Be staffed at all times with at least one registered nurse on the premises;<sup>39</sup> and
  - Be staffed with at least one licensed nurse in each resident care unit.<sup>40</sup>
- The District of Columbia requires that nursing facilities:
  - Have a licensed registered nurse or licensed practical nurse on each unit, 24 hours a day;<sup>41</sup> and
  - Ensure that the licensed registered nurse or licensed practical nurse has experience in geriatric, rehabilitation, psychiatric, or other appropriate nursing discipline.<sup>42</sup>
- Illinois requires that:
  - Skilled nursing facilities:

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<sup>37</sup> See Alaska Admin. Code tit. 7 § 12.275(c).

<sup>38</sup> See Ariz. Admin. Code § R9-10-412(B)(3) (2019), [https://apps.azsos.gov/public\\_services/Title\\_09/9-10.pdf#page=93](https://apps.azsos.gov/public_services/Title_09/9-10.pdf#page=93).

<sup>39</sup> See 6 Colo. Code Regs. § 1001-1:5-9.3(B) (2020), <https://www.sos.state.co.us/CCR/GenerateRulePdf.do?ruleVersionId=8836&fileName=6%20CCR%201011-1%20Chapter%2005#page=15>.

<sup>40</sup> See *id.*

<sup>41</sup> See D.C. Mun. Regs. tit. 22, ch. B32, § 3210.1 (2011), [https://doh.dc.gov/sites/default/files/dc/sites/doh/publication/attachments/Nursing\\_Facility\\_Regulations\\_Health\\_Care\\_Facilities\\_Improvement\\_2012.pdf#page=11](https://doh.dc.gov/sites/default/files/dc/sites/doh/publication/attachments/Nursing_Facility_Regulations_Health_Care_Facilities_Improvement_2012.pdf#page=11).

<sup>42</sup> See D.C. Mun. Regs. tit. 22, ch. B32, § 3210.2.

## EXISTING NURSING STAFFING STANDARDS AND REGULATIONS IN OTHER STATES

- Have at least one registered nurse on duty for 8 consecutive hours per day;<sup>43</sup>
    - For the other hours of the day, have a registered nurse or a licensed practical nurse on duty;<sup>44</sup> and
    - For each floor that houses residents, have at least one registered nurse or licensed practical nurse on duty;<sup>45</sup> and
  - Intermediate care facilities have at least one registered nurse or licensed practical nurse on duty at all times.<sup>46</sup>
- Iowa requires that nursing facilities:
  - Have a health services supervisor who is a qualified nurse;<sup>47</sup>
  - Having 50 beds or more, have a qualified nurse employed to relieve the health services supervisor of nursing responsibilities;<sup>48</sup>
  - Having less than 75 beds with a health services supervisor who is a licensed practical nurse, employ a registered nurse for consultation for at least 4 hours each week during the same duty shift as the health service supervisor;<sup>49</sup>
  - Having 75 beds or more, have a qualified nurse on duty 24 hours a day;<sup>50</sup> and
  - Provide 2.0 hours of care per day to residents who need intermediate nursing care, of which 20% must be provided by qualified nurses.<sup>51</sup>
- Kansas requires that nursing facilities:
  - Have a registered nurse on duty at least 8 consecutive hours per day;
  - Have a licensed nurse on duty at all times;
  - Have the same number of licensed nurses as there are nursing units; and

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<sup>43</sup> See Ill. Admin. Code tit. 77, § 300.1240(c) (2023), <https://www.ilga.gov/commission/jcar/admincode/077/077003000F12400R.html>.

<sup>44</sup> See Ill. Admin. Code tit. 77, § 300.1240(d).

<sup>45</sup> See Ill. Admin. Code tit. 77, § 300.1240(e).

<sup>46</sup> See Ill. Admin. Code tit. 77, § 300.1240(d).

<sup>47</sup> See Iowa Admin. Code r. 481-58.11(1)(h) (2023), <https://www.legis.iowa.gov/docs/iac/rule/06-16-2021.481.58.11.pdf>.

<sup>48</sup> See Iowa Admin. Code r. 481-58.11(2)(d).

<sup>49</sup> See Iowa Admin. Code r. 481-58.11(2)(j).

<sup>50</sup> See Iowa Admin. Code r. 481-58.11(2)(i).

<sup>51</sup> See Iowa Admin. Code r. 481-58.11(2)(g).

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- Have a registered nurse immediately available by telephone if a licensed practical nurse is the only licensed nurse on duty.<sup>52</sup>
- Kentucky requires that nursing home facilities have at least:
  - One registered nurse on duty at all times;<sup>53</sup> or
  - One licensed practical nurse on duty at all times while a registered nurse is on call.<sup>54</sup>
- Michigan requires that:
  - Nursing homes have a licensed nurse on duty at all times;<sup>55</sup> and
  - Psychiatric hospitals and psychiatric units of a hospital have a licensed registered nurse with a minimum of one year of psychiatric nursing experience, on duty during each work shift.<sup>56</sup>
- Minnesota requires that:
  - Nursing homes have:
    - A nurse on duty 8 hours per day;<sup>57</sup> and
    - A registered nurse on call when a registered nurse is not on duty;<sup>58</sup> and
  - Assisted living facilities have a registered nurse on call, 24 hours a day.<sup>59</sup>
- Mississippi requires that:
  - Facilities known as "personal care homes - assisted living" have a licensed nurse on the premises 8 hours per day;<sup>60</sup>

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<sup>52</sup> See Kan. Admin. Regs. § 28-39-154(a) (2023), [https://sos.ks.gov/publications/pubs\\_kar\\_Regs.aspx?KAR=28-39-154](https://sos.ks.gov/publications/pubs_kar_Regs.aspx?KAR=28-39-154).

<sup>53</sup> See 902 Ky. Admin. Regs. 20:048 § 2(10)(1) (2024), <https://apps.legislature.ky.gov/law/kar/titles/902/020/048/>.

<sup>54</sup> See *id.*

<sup>55</sup> See Mich. Comp. Laws § 333.21720a(1) (2023), <https://www.legislature.mi.gov/Laws/MCL?objectName=MCL-333-21720A>.

<sup>56</sup> See Mich. Admin. Code r. 330.1285(6) (2023), [https://ars.apps.lara.state.mi.us/AdminCode/DownloadAdminCodeFile?FileName=454\\_10429\\_AdminCode.pdf&ReturnHTML=True](https://ars.apps.lara.state.mi.us/AdminCode/DownloadAdminCodeFile?FileName=454_10429_AdminCode.pdf&ReturnHTML=True).

<sup>57</sup> See Minn. R. 4658.0510, Subpart 3 (2023), <https://www.revisor.mn.gov/rules/4658.0510/>.

<sup>58</sup> See Minn. R. 4658.0510, Subpart 4.

<sup>59</sup> See Minn. Stat. § 144G.41, Subd. 1(13) (2023), <https://www.revisor.mn.gov/statutes/cite/144G.41>.

<sup>60</sup> See 15 Miss. Code R., pt. 16, subpart 1, § 47.11.4(3) (2023).

## EXISTING NURSING STAFFING STANDARDS AND REGULATIONS IN OTHER STATES

- Opioid treatment programs:
  - Have at least one full-time registered nurse for the first 100 or fewer people in the program;<sup>61</sup> and
  - Have enough additional nurses to provide one hour of nursing care per week for every 5 additional people more than 100 people in the program;<sup>62</sup> and
- Nursing facilities must have a registered nurse on duty during the day shift each day.<sup>63</sup>
- Missouri requires that:
  - Skilled nursing facilities:
    - For the day shift, have a registered nurse on duty; and
    - For the evening and night shifts, have:
      - A registered professional nurse on duty; or
      - A licensed practical nurse on duty with a registered nurse on call;<sup>64</sup>
  - Intermediate care facilities:
    - With a director of nursing who is a licensed practical nurse must have a registered nurse who is employed as a consultant for at least 4 hours per week;<sup>65</sup>
    - Have a licensed practical nurse or registered nurse on call at all times;<sup>66</sup>
    - Have a licensed practical nurse or registered nurse on duty during the day shift;<sup>67</sup>

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<sup>61</sup> See 24 Miss. Code R., pt. 2, § 53.2(C) (2023), <https://www.sos.ms.gov/adminsearch/ACCCode/00000219c.pdf#page=372>.

<sup>62</sup> See *id.*

<sup>63</sup> See 15 Miss. Code R., pt. 16, subpart 1, § 45.4.1(2)(a) (2023).

<sup>64</sup> See Mo. Code Regs. Ann. tit. 19, § 30-85.042(35)(B) (2021), <https://sl.sos.mo.gov/cmsimages/adrules/csr/current/19csr/19c30-85.pdf#page=17>.

<sup>65</sup> See Mo. Code Regs. Ann. tit. 19, § 30-85.042(36)(B).

<sup>66</sup> See Mo. Code Regs. Ann. tit. 19, § 30-85.042(36)(D).

<sup>67</sup> See Mo. Code Regs. Ann. tit. 19, § 30-85.042(36)(C).

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- Montana requires that skilled nursing facilities:
  - Comply with the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services' standards and certification requirements for states and long-term care facilities under Title 42 Code of Federal Regulations, Chapter IV, Subchapter G, Part 483;<sup>68</sup> and
  - Provide services by a sufficient number of nurses<sup>69</sup> with at least one registered nurse on duty 24 hours a day, subject to waivers for facilities that:
    - Cannot recruit appropriate personnel despite reasonable efforts; or
    - Have only patients that do not require nursing services for a 48 hour period.<sup>70</sup>
- New Hampshire requires that nursing homes have:
  - A licensed nurse on duty 24 hours a day; and
  - A registered nurse on duty 8 hours during each 24-hour period.<sup>71</sup>
- New Mexico requires that:
  - Skilled nursing facilities have at least one registered nurse or licensed practical nurse on duty at all times; and
  - Intermediate care facilities have a registered nurse or licensed practical nurse during each shift.<sup>72</sup>

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<sup>68</sup> See Mont. Admin. R. 37.106.601(1) (2023), <https://rules.mt.gov/browse/collections/aec52c46-128e-4279-9068-8af5d5432d74/policies/8d6002f2-7e61-46b9-a8d1-d2915232080b>.

<sup>69</sup> See 42 C.F.R. § 483.35(a)(1)(i) (2024), <https://www.ecfr.gov/current/title-42/chapter-IV/subchapter-G/part-483/subpart-B/section-483.35>.

<sup>70</sup> See 42 C.F.R. § 483.35(c)(1).

<sup>71</sup> See N.H. Code Admin. R. He-P 803.15(d)(1) and (2) (2019), <https://www.dhhs.nh.gov/sites/g/files/ehbemt476/files/inline-documents/sonh/he-p803-nursing-home-rules.pdf#page=28>.

<sup>72</sup> See N.M. Code R. § 8.370.16.50 (2024), <https://www.srca.nm.gov/parts/title08/08.370.0016.html>.

## EXISTING NURSING STAFFING STANDARDS AND REGULATIONS IN OTHER STATES

- New Jersey requires that long-term care facilities:
  - Have a full-time director of nursing or nursing administrator who is a registered professional nurse;<sup>73</sup> and if the long-term care facility has 150 licensed beds or more, there must be an assistant director of nursing who is also a registered professional nurse;<sup>74</sup>
  - Having 151 licensed beds or more, a registered professional nurse must be on duty at all times;<sup>75</sup>
  - Provide residents at least 2.5 hours of nursing services per day by registered professional nurses, licensed practical nurses, or nurse aides, plus additional time based on additional services (e.g., an additional 1.25 hours per day if the resident uses a respirator);<sup>76</sup> and
  - Use registered professional nurses or licensed practical nurses to provide at least 20% of the minimum nursing service hours.<sup>77</sup>
- Nevada requires that skilled nursing facilities have:
  - A licensed practical nurse on duty for each shift;<sup>78</sup> and
  - A registered nurse on duty for at least 8 consecutive hours per day.<sup>79</sup>

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<sup>73</sup> See N.J. Admin. Code § 8:39-25.1(a) (2024), <https://advance.lexis.com/documentpage/?pdmfid=1000516&crd=494b9d07-77ec-4b06-af70-574c50925931&nodeid=AALACQABAAAB&nodepath=%2FROOT%2FAAL%2FAALACO%2FAALACOABA%2FAALACQABAAAB&level=4&haschildren=&populated=false&title=%2C%27%3A39-25.1+Mandatory+policies+and+procedures+for+nurse+staffing&config=00JAA1YTg5OGJIYi04MTI4LTRINjQtYTc4Yi03NTQxN2E5NmE0ZjQKAFBvZENhdGFsb2ftaXPxZTR7bRPtX1Jok9kz&pddocfullpath=%2Fshared%2Fdocument%2Fadministrative-codes%2Furn%3AcontentItem%3A649B-R7H1-FCCX-63PK-00008-00&ecomp=6gf5kkk&prid=4bcda7d0-bf74-437e-aa89-87be755fd6ad>. A "registered professional nurse" in New Jersey is synonymous with the term "R.N." or "registered nurse." See N.J. Admin. Code § 10:58A-1.2 (2024) ("within the scope of practice of a licensed registered professional nurse (R.N.) . . ."), <https://www.law.cornell.edu/regulations/new-jersey/N-J-A-C-10-58A-1-2>.

<sup>74</sup> See N.J. Admin. Code § 8:39-25.2(d) (2024), <https://advance.lexis.com/documentpage/?pdmfid=1000516&crd=44f11994-804c-4044-a9f9-254191e0a56a&pdistocdocslideraccess=true&config=00JAA1YTg5OGJIYi04MTI4LTRINjQtYTc4Yi03NTQxN2E5NmE0ZjQKAFBvZENhdGFsb2ftaXPxZTR7bRPtX1Jok9kz&pddocfullpath=%2Fshared%2Fdocument%2Fadministrative-codes%2Furn%3AcontentItem%3A649B-R7H1-FCCX-63Y2-00008-00&pdcomponentid=234124&pdtocontentIdentifier=AALACQABAAAC&ecomp=h2vckkk&prid=bf810e58-35fe-4ab7-b5cd-98722d6543ee>.

<sup>75</sup> See N.J. Admin. Code § 8:39-25.2(e).

<sup>76</sup> See N.J. Admin. Code § 8:39-25.2(b).

<sup>77</sup> See N.J. Admin. Code § 8:39-25.2(f).

<sup>78</sup> See Nev. Admin. Code § 449.74517(3) (2023), <https://www.leg.state.nv.us/nac/nac-449.html#NAC449Sec74517>.

<sup>79</sup> See Nev. Admin. Code § 449.74517(4).

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AND SUCCESSFUL EFFORTS TO REDUCE NURSE STAFFING SHORTAGES*

- North Carolina requires that nursing facilities have:
  - At least one licensed nurse on duty for direct patient care at all times; and
  - A least one registered nurse on duty for at least 8 consecutive hours per day.<sup>80</sup>
- Oklahoma requires that nursing facilities and specialized facilities:
  - Have a licensed nurse on duty 24 hours a day; provided that this requirement may be waived by the Oklahoma State Department of Health if the facility demonstrates that it has been unable, despite diligent effort, to recruit licensed nurses;<sup>81</sup>
  - Have at least one licensed nurse on duty for 8 hours per day during the day shift;<sup>82</sup> and
  - With a director of nursing who is a licensed practical nurse, have a registered nurse must be on duty for at least 8 hours per week as a consultant.<sup>83</sup>
- Pennsylvania requires that the following have a mental health professional or psychiatric nurse as a member of the staff:
  - Children and youth partial hospitalization programs; and
  - Adult partial hospitalization programs.<sup>84</sup>
- Rhode Island requires that nursing facilities have a registered nurse on the premises 24 hours a day.<sup>85</sup>

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<sup>80</sup> See 10A N.C. Admin. Code 13D .2303(d) (2023), <http://reports.oah.state.nc.us/ncac/title%2010a%20-%20health%20and%20human%20services/chapter%2013%20-%20nc%20medical%20care%20commission/subchapter%20d/subchapter%20d%20rules.html>.

<sup>81</sup> See Okla. Admin. Code § 310:675-13-12(d) (2020), <https://oklahoma.gov/content/dam/ok/en/osbeltca/documents/rules/osdh/oac310-ch675-nursing-and-specialized-facilities-gzt-from-oar-2020.pdf#page=76>.

<sup>82</sup> See Okla. Admin. Code § 310:675-13-12(b).

<sup>83</sup> See Okla. Admin. Code § 310:675-13-12(c).

<sup>84</sup> See 55 Pa. Code § 5210.21(b) (2023), <https://www.pacodeandbulletin.gov/Display/pacode?file=/secure/pacode/data/055/chapter5210/s5210.21.html>.

<sup>85</sup> See R.I. Gen. Laws § 23-17.5-32(a) (2023), <http://webserver.rilin.state.ri.us/Statutes/TITLE23/23-17.5/23-17.5-32.htm>.

## EXISTING NURSING STAFFING STANDARDS AND REGULATIONS IN OTHER STATES

- South Carolina requires that:
  - Licensed nursing homes:
    - With 44 or less residents per staff work area, have at least one licensed nurse per shift for each staff work area;<sup>86</sup>
    - With more than 44 residents per staff work area, have:
      - On the first shift, at least 2 licensed nurses; and
      - On the second and third shifts, at least one licensed nurse;<sup>87</sup> and
    - With residents present, have at least one registered nurse on duty in the facility or on call;<sup>88</sup> and
  - Hospice facilities have a nurse on duty at all times.<sup>89</sup>
- South Dakota requires that ambulatory surgery center facilities:
  - Have an organized nursing service under the direction of a registered nurse;<sup>90</sup>
  - Have at least one registered nurse on duty when a patient is in the ambulatory surgery center facility;<sup>91</sup>
  - When using a general anesthetic on a patient, have at least one registered nurse other than the individual administering anesthesia be available in the operating room during the surgical procedure;<sup>92</sup> and
  - "[M]aintain a sufficient number of nursing personnel on duty at all times to provide supervision of and nursing care for all patients."<sup>93</sup>

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<sup>86</sup> See S.C. Code Ann. Regs. 61-17-605(A)(2) (2016), <https://scdhec.gov/sites/default/files/Library/Regulations/R.61-17.pdf#page=23>.

<sup>87</sup> See *id.*

<sup>88</sup> See S.C. Code Ann. Regs. 61-17-605(A)(3).

<sup>89</sup> See S.C. Code Ann. Regs. 61-78-604 (2023), <https://scdhec.gov/sites/default/files/Library/Regulations/R.61-78.pdf#page=17>.

<sup>90</sup> See S.D. Admin. R. 44:76:06:01 (2024), <https://sdlegislature.gov/Rules/Administrative/44:76:06>.

<sup>91</sup> See *id.*

<sup>92</sup> See *id.*

<sup>93</sup> *Id.*



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- Tennessee requires that:
  - Crisis stabilization unit facilities must have at least one registered nurse, nurse practitioner,<sup>94</sup> or physician assistant on duty at all times;<sup>95</sup> and
  - Nursing homes:
    - Must provide 24-hour nursing services furnished or supervised by a registered nurse;<sup>96</sup>
    - Have a licensed practical nurse or registered nurse on duty at all times;<sup>97</sup>
    - Must have adequate numbers of licensed registered nurses, licensed practical nurses, and certified nurse aides to provide nursing care to all residents as needed;<sup>98</sup> and
    - Must provide a minimum of 0.4 hours of licensed nursing personnel time to each resident per day.<sup>99</sup>

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<sup>94</sup> In Tennessee, a nurse practitioner is a type of advanced practice registered nurse. Tenn. Code Ann. § 63-7-126, <https://advance.lexis.com/documentpage/?pdmfid=1000516&crd=5574318a-8626-4003-a1f0-ca8c09e43a4c&config=025054JABIOTJjNmIyNi0wYjIOLTRjZGEtYWE5ZC0zNGFhOWNhMjFINDgKAFBvZENhdGFsb2cDFQ14bX2GfyBTaI9WcPX5&pddocfullpath=%2Fshared%2Fdocument%2Fstatutes-legislation%2Furn%3AcontentItem%3A560D-BHK0-R03M-R3JX-00008-00&pdcontentcomponentid=234179&pdteaserkey=sr0&pditab=allpods&ecomp=6s65kkk&earg=sr0&prid=4c230747-c86c-4cce-828a-fa9df3c3ff1f>.

Nurse practitioners have the authority to prescribe certain controlled substances. Tenn. Code Ann. §§ 63-7-123, <https://advance.lexis.com/documentpage/?pdmfid=1000516&crd=4b6930a3-c5ae-4b60-bb19-31e3e09823f0&config=025054JABIOTJjNmIyNi0wYjIOLTRjZGEtYWE5ZC0zNGFhOWNhMjFINDgKAFBvZENhdGFsb2cDFQ14bX2GfyBTaI9WcPX5&pddocfullpath=%2Fshared%2Fdocument%2Fstatutes-legislation%2Furn%3AcontentItem%3A5SCV-7VM0-R03N-923H-00008-00&pdcontentcomponentid=234179&pdteaserkey=sr0&pditab=allpods&ecomp=6s65kkk&earg=sr0&prid=25f328e4-1770-4969-8af2-17d4a9966094>.

<sup>95</sup> See Tenn. Comp. R. & Regs. 0940-05-18-.04 (2018), <https://publications.tnsosfiles.com/rules/0940/0940-05/0940-05-18.20221201.pdf#page=2>.

<sup>96</sup> See Tenn. Comp. R. & Regs. 1200-08-06-.06(4)(a) (2018), <https://publications.tnsosfiles.com/rules/1200/1200-08/1200-08-06.20181008.pdf#page=23>.

<sup>97</sup> See *id.*

<sup>98</sup> See Tenn. Comp. R. & Regs. 1200-08-06-.06(4)(d).

<sup>99</sup> See *id.*

## EXISTING NURSING STAFFING STANDARDS AND REGULATIONS IN OTHER STATES

- Texas requires that nursing facilities use the services of a registered nurse 8 consecutive hours per day<sup>100</sup> and designate a registered nurse to serve as the director of nursing on a full-time basis, 40 hours per week.<sup>101</sup> However, these requirements may be waived for a Medicare skilled nursing facility that can meet certain other requirements, including if:
  - The facility is located in a rural area;
  - The supply of Medicare skilled nursing facility services in the area is not sufficient to meet the needs of individuals residing in the area;
  - The facility has one full-time registered nurse who is regularly on duty at the facility 40 hours a week; and
  - Either:
    - The residents of the nursing facility do not require skilled nursing services for a 48-hour period; or
    - The facility has made arrangements to provide necessary skilled nursing services on days when the regular full-time registered nurse is not on duty.<sup>102</sup>
- Vermont requires that nursing homes use the services of a registered nurse for at least 8 consecutive hours per day.<sup>103</sup>
- Washington requires that large nonessential community providers of nursing services have a registered nurse on duty directly supervising resident care 24 hours a day.<sup>104</sup>

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<sup>100</sup> See 26 Tex. Admin. Code § 554.1001(a)(2)(A) (2024),

[https://texreg.sos.state.tx.us/public/readtac\\$ext.TacPage?sl=R&app=9&p\\_dir=&p\\_rloc=&p\\_tloc=&p\\_ploc=&pg=1&p\\_tac=&ti=26&pt=1&ch=554&rl=1001](https://texreg.sos.state.tx.us/public/readtac$ext.TacPage?sl=R&app=9&p_dir=&p_rloc=&p_tloc=&p_ploc=&pg=1&p_tac=&ti=26&pt=1&ch=554&rl=1001).

<sup>101</sup> See 26 Tex. Admin. Code § 554.1001(a)(2)(B).

<sup>102</sup> See 26 Tex. Admin. Code § 554.1001(a)(6).

<sup>103</sup> See 13-110-005 Vt. Code R. § 7.13(c) (2024),

<https://advance.lexis.com/documentpage/teaserdocument/?pdmfid=1000516&crd=4b1dd968-a58c-46ff-9741-3dd0c52aeb9c&config=00JAA3YmIxY2M5OC0zYmJjLTO4ZjMtYjY3Yi02ODZhMTViYWUzMmEKAFBvZENhdGFsb2dfKuGXoJFNHhKuKZG9Oqaal&pddocfullpath=%2Fshared%2Fdocument%2Fadministrative-codes%2Furn%3AcontentItem%3A5WS0-FPD1-FGRY-B0JK-00008-00&pddocid=urn%3AcontentItem%3A5WS0-FPD1-FGRY-B0JK-00008-00&pdcontentcomponentid=234125&pdteaserkey=h1&pditab=allpods&ecomp=6s65kkk&earg=sr0&prid=e46af32e-2220-4b8e-b0fc-8c422aef8c56>.

<sup>104</sup> See Wash. Rev. Code § 74.42.360(3)(a) (2023), <https://app.leg.wa.gov/rcw/default.aspx?cite=74.42.360>, and Wash. Admin. Code § 388-97-1080(3) (2023), <https://app.leg.wa.gov/wac/default.aspx?cite=388-97-1080>.

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- West Virginia requires that nursing homes have a registered nurse on duty for at least 8 consecutive hours per day.<sup>105</sup>
- Wyoming requires that:
  - Critical access hospitals:<sup>106</sup>
    - Use the services of a registered nurse for at least 8 hours per day; and
    - Schedule adequate numbers of licensed registered nurses, licensed practical nurses, certified nursing assistants, and other personnel to provide nursing care as needed;<sup>107</sup> and
  - Other hospitals:
    - Have nursing services at all times that are supervised by a registered nurse;<sup>108</sup>
    - For a special care unit that is occupied:
      - Have a nurse present at all times; and
      - Have a ratio of nurses to patients that depends on the number of patients in the unit and the type of care required;<sup>109</sup> and
    - For obstetric services:
      - Have a registered nurse in charge of labor, delivery room, postpartum, and nursery;<sup>110</sup> and

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<sup>105</sup> See W. Va. Code R. § 64-13-8.14.4 (2021),

<https://apps.sos.wv.gov/adlaw/csr/readfile.aspx?DocId=54121&Format=PDF#page=44>.

<sup>106</sup> Very generally, "critical access hospital" is a designation for small rural hospitals located more than thirty-five miles from the nearest hospital and that provide twenty-four-hour emergency care services. The precise requirements are specified in 42 U.S.C. § 1395i-4, <https://uscode.house.gov/view.xhtml?req=granuleid:USC-prelim-title42-section1395i-4&num=0&edition=prelim>. Wyoming's rules for designation of critical care hospitals may be found in 048-3 Wyo. Code R. § 3-1, et seq. (2023),

[https://rules.wyo.gov/DownloadFile.aspx?source\\_id=14825&source\\_type\\_id=81&doc\\_type\\_id=110&include\\_meta\\_data=Y&file\\_type=pdf&filename=14825.pdf&token=194070227161213092023225200013160139245117109170](https://rules.wyo.gov/DownloadFile.aspx?source_id=14825&source_type_id=81&doc_type_id=110&include_meta_data=Y&file_type=pdf&filename=14825.pdf&token=194070227161213092023225200013160139245117109170).

<sup>107</sup> See 48-61-17 Wyo. Code R. § 9 (2023), <https://health.wyo.gov/wp-content/uploads/2023/03/FINAL-SOS-CH-17-21551.pdf#page=12>.

<sup>108</sup> See 48-61-12 Wyo. Code R. § 16 (2023), <https://health.wyo.gov/wp-content/uploads/2023/03/FINAL-SOS-CH-12-21552.pdf#page=15>.

<sup>109</sup> See 48-61-12 Wyo. Code R. § 13(b)(i) (2023), <https://health.wyo.gov/wp-content/uploads/2023/03/FINAL-SOS-CH-12-21552.pdf#page=13>.

<sup>110</sup> See 48-61-12 Wyo. Code R. § 14(c) (2023), <https://health.wyo.gov/wp-content/uploads/2023/03/FINAL-SOS-CH-12-21552.pdf#page=14>.

- Have a registered nurse present in the delivery room at the time of delivery.<sup>111</sup>
- Nursing stations of nursing care facilities have a registered nurse or qualified licensed practical nurse on duty every day of the week.<sup>112</sup>

**Requirements for Minimum Nurse Staffing with Minimum Nurse-to-Patient Ratios or Minimum Number of Hours Per Resident Day for a Registered Nurse**

Some states require that a hospital, nursing home, or other healthcare facility have a minimum nurse-to-patient ratio. Other states specify a nurse's minimum time with a patient each hour or day. Nurse-to-patient ratios vary but are generally commensurate with the needs of the patient. For example, California requires a 1:1 nurse-to-patient ratio for critical trauma patients in the emergency department,<sup>113</sup> and Delaware requires that residential health facilities have a 1:30 nurse-to-patient ratio during the night shift.<sup>114</sup>

- Arizona requires the following minimum nurse to patient ratios:
  - 1:2 for intensive care units;<sup>115</sup> and
  - 1:64 for nursing care institutions.<sup>116</sup>
- Arkansas requires that nursing home facilities have a minimum licensed nurse-to-patient ratio as follows:
  - 1:40 during the day and evening shifts; and
  - 1:80 during the night shift.<sup>117</sup>

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<sup>111</sup> See 48-61-12 Wyo. Code R. § 14(d).

<sup>112</sup> See 48-3-11 Wyo. Code R. § 9(ix)(A) (2020), <https://health.wyo.gov/wp-content/uploads/2020/07/FILED-RULES-17704-EFFECT-07-01-2020.pdf#page=16>.

<sup>113</sup> See Cal. Code Regs. tit. 22, § 70217(a)(8) (2023), <https://govt.westlaw.com/calregs/Document/IB0822FCB5B6111EC9451000D3A7C4BC3>.

<sup>114</sup> See 16-11 Del. Admin. Code § 1162(e) (2023), <https://delcode.delaware.gov/title16/c011/sc07/index.html>.

<sup>115</sup> See Ariz. Admin. Code § 9-10-221(5)(a) (2014), [https://apps.azsos.gov/public\\_services/Title\\_09/9-10.pdf#page=54](https://apps.azsos.gov/public_services/Title_09/9-10.pdf#page=54).

<sup>116</sup> See Ariz. Admin. Code § 9-10-412(B)(3) (2014), [https://apps.azsos.gov/public\\_services/Title\\_09/9-10.pdf#page=93](https://apps.azsos.gov/public_services/Title_09/9-10.pdf#page=93).

<sup>117</sup> See 016.06.01-054 Ark. Code R. § 520.3.1 (2023), <http://170.94.37.152/REGS/016.06.04-001F.pdf#page=67>.

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- California specifies various minimum nurse-to-patient ratios for units or locations of hospitals.<sup>118</sup> The minimum nurse-to-patient ratios are:
  - 1:2 for critical care units;
  - 1:2 labor and delivery suites of the perinatal service for patients in active labor;
  - 1:4 for antepartum patients who are not in active labor;
  - 1:4 for mother-baby couplets in postpartum areas of the perinatal service;
  - 1:8 for mothers with multiple births with the mother and each infant counted individually;
  - 1:6 for postpartum areas consisting of mothers only;
  - 1:3 in combined labor/delivery/postpartum areas of the perinatal service;
  - 1:4 in pediatric service units;
  - 1:2 in post-anesthesia recovery units of the anesthesia service;
  - 1:4 for patients who are receiving treatment in hospitals providing basic emergency medical services or comprehensive emergency medical services, and no fewer than 2 licensed nurses must be physically present in the emergency department when a patient is present;
  - 1:2 for critical care patients when licensed nursing staff are attending critical care patients in the emergency department;
  - 1:1 for critical trauma patients in the emergency department;
  - 1:3 in step-down units;
  - 1:4 in telemetry units;
  - 1:5 in medical/surgical care units;
  - 1:4 in specialty care units; and

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<sup>118</sup> See Cal. Health & Safety Code § 1276.4(a) (2023), [https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/codes\\_displaySection.xhtml?lawCode=HSC&sectionNum=1276.4](https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/codes_displaySection.xhtml?lawCode=HSC&sectionNum=1276.4), and Cal. Code Regs. tit. 22, § 70217(a) (2023), <https://govt.westlaw.com/calregs/Document/1B0822FCB5B6111EC9451000D3A7C4BC3>.

## EXISTING NURSING STAFFING STANDARDS AND REGULATIONS IN OTHER STATES

- 1:6 in psychiatric units.<sup>119</sup>
- Connecticut requires that:
  - Chronic and convalescent nursing homes:
    - Have at least one licensed nurse on duty on each patient-occupied floor at all times;<sup>120</sup>
    - From the hours of 7:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m., the number of licensed nursing personnel shall not be less than 0.47 hours per patient; and
    - From the hours of 9:00 p.m. to 7:00 a.m., the number of licensed nursing personnel shall not be less than 0.17 hours per patient;<sup>121</sup> and
  - Rest homes with nursing supervision:
    - Have at least one nurse's aide on duty on each patient-occupied floor at all times and intercom communication shall be available with a licensed nurse;<sup>122</sup>
    - From the hours of 7:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m., the number of licensed nursing personnel shall not be less than 0.23 hours per patient; and
    - From the hours of 9:00 p.m. to 7:00 a.m., the number of licensed nursing personnel shall not be less than 0.08 hours per patient.<sup>123</sup>
- Delaware requires that residential health facilities have a registered nurse- or licensed practical nurse-to-patient ratio of:
  - 1:15 during the day;
  - 1:20 in the evening; and
  - 1:30 at night.<sup>124</sup>

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<sup>119</sup> See Cal. Code Regs. tit. 22, § 70217(a)(1) to (10) (2023), <https://govt.westlaw.com/calregs/Document/IB0822FCB5B6111EC9451000D3A7C4BC3>.

<sup>120</sup> See Conn. Agency Regs. § 19-13-D8t(m)(4)(A) (2023), <https://eregulations.ct.gov/eRegsPortal/Browse/getDocument?guid=%7bA5561062-AB9F-4B60-833E-D75A4D74023C%7d#page=15>.

<sup>121</sup> See Conn. Agency Regs. § 19-13-D8t(m)(5)(A) (2023), <https://eregulations.ct.gov/eRegsPortal/Browse/getDocument?guid=%7bA5561062-AB9F-4B60-833E-D75A4D74023C%7d#page=15>.

<sup>122</sup> See Conn. Agency Regs. § 19-13-D8t(m)(4)(B).

<sup>123</sup> See Conn. Agency Regs. § 19-13-D8t(m)(6)(A).

<sup>124</sup> See 16-11 Del. Admin. Code § 1162(e) (2023), <https://delcode.delaware.gov/title16/c011/sc07/index.html>.

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- The District of Columbia requires that nursing facilities have an advanced practice registered nurse or registered nurse provide a minimum of 0.6 hours of direct nursing care to each resident daily.<sup>125</sup>
- Florida requires that:
  - Facilities<sup>126</sup> determine their own staffing needs and at a minimum provide a minimum of 1.0 hours of direct care by a licensed nurse per resident of the facility per day and a minimum ratio of one licensed nurse per 40 residents of the facility;<sup>127</sup>
  - Nursing home facilities with:
    - Residents under 21 years of age who require skilled care, have a licensed nursing staffing of at least 1.0 hours of direct care per resident per day;<sup>128</sup>
    - Residents under 21 years of age who are medically fragile, have a licensed nursing staffing of at least 1.7 hours of direct care per resident per day;<sup>129</sup>
    - A unit where children reside, have a registered nurse on duty in that unit at all times.<sup>130</sup>

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<sup>125</sup> See D.C. Mun. Regs. tit. 22 § 3211.5 (2011), [https://doh.dc.gov/sites/default/files/dc/sites/doh/publication/attachments/Nursing\\_Facility\\_Regulations\\_Health\\_Care\\_Facilities\\_Improvement\\_2012.pdf#page=13](https://doh.dc.gov/sites/default/files/dc/sites/doh/publication/attachments/Nursing_Facility_Regulations_Health_Care_Facilities_Improvement_2012.pdf#page=13).

<sup>126</sup> Fla. Stat. § 400.021(7) (2023) defines "facility" as:

[A]ny institution, building, residence, private home, or other place, whether operated for profit or not, including a place operated by a county or municipality, which undertakes through its ownership or management to provide for a period exceeding 24-hour nursing care, personal care, or custodial care for three or more persons not related to the owner or manager by blood or marriage, who by reason of illness, physical infirmity, or advanced age require such services, but does not include any place providing care and treatment primarily for the acutely ill. A facility offering services for fewer than three persons is within the meaning of this definition if it holds itself out to the public to be an establishment which regularly provides such services.

[http://www.leg.state.fl.us/statutes/index.cfm?App\\_mode=Display\\_Statute&Search\\_String=&URL=0400-0499/0400/Sections/0400.021.html](http://www.leg.state.fl.us/statutes/index.cfm?App_mode=Display_Statute&Search_String=&URL=0400-0499/0400/Sections/0400.021.html).

<sup>127</sup> See Fla. Stat. § 400.023(3)(b) (2023),

[http://www.leg.state.fl.us/statutes/index.cfm?App\\_mode=Display\\_Statute&Search\\_String=&URL=0400-0499/0400/Sections/0400.23.html](http://www.leg.state.fl.us/statutes/index.cfm?App_mode=Display_Statute&Search_String=&URL=0400-0499/0400/Sections/0400.23.html).

<sup>128</sup> See Fla. Stat. § 400.023(5)(b)(1)(b).

<sup>129</sup> See Fla. Stat. § 400.023(5)(b)(2)(b).

<sup>130</sup> See Fla. Stat. § 400.023(5)(b)(2)(d).

## EXISTING NURSING STAFFING STANDARDS AND REGULATIONS IN OTHER STATES

- Georgia requires that:
  - End stage renal disease facilities provide one licensed and qualified nurse for every 12 patients receiving dialysis care;<sup>131</sup>
  - Assisted living communities:
    - Have a registered professional nurse or licensed practical nurse on-site to support care and oversight of the residents, as follows:
      - For communities with 1 to 30 residents, a minimum of 8 hours per week;
      - For communities with 31 to 60 residents, a minimum of 16 hours per week;
      - For communities with 61 to 90 residents, a minimum of 24 hours per week; and
      - For communities with more than 90 residents, a minimum of 40 hours per week;<sup>132</sup>
    - That also hold a certificate to operate a memory care center have one registered professional nurse or licensed practical nurse on-site or available in the building at all times as follows:
      - For 1 to 12 residents, a minimum of 8 hours per week;
      - For 13 to 30 residents, a minimum of 16 hours per week;
      - For 31 to 40 residents, a minimum of 24 hours per week; and
      - For memory care centers with more than 40 residents, a minimum of 40 hours per week;<sup>133</sup> and
  - Nursing homes:
    - Have one nurse on duty during each 8-hour shift,<sup>134</sup> and

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<sup>131</sup> See Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. 111-8-22-.06(2)(b)(4)(i) (2023), <https://rules.sos.ga.gov/GAC/111-8-22-.06>.

<sup>132</sup> See Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. 111-8-63-.09(18)(c) (2023), <https://rules.sos.ga.gov/GAC/111-8-63-.09>.

<sup>133</sup> See Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. 111-8-63-.19(1)(c)(iv) (2023), <https://rules.sos.ga.gov/GAC/111-8-63-.19>.

<sup>134</sup> See Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. 111-8-56-.04(4) (2023), <https://rules.sos.state.ga.us/GAC/111-8-56-.04>.



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- For every 7 total nursing personnel required, the nursing home shall not employ less than one registered nurse or licensed practical nurse.<sup>135</sup>
- Illinois requires that each resident:
  - Requiring skilled care receive 3.8 hours of nursing and personal care per day with a minimum of:
    - At least 25% of nursing and personal care time (0.95 hours) be provided by a licensed nurse; and
    - At least 10% of nursing and personal care time (0.38 hours) be provided by a registered nurse;<sup>136</sup> and
  - Requiring intermediate care receive 2.5 hours of nursing and personal care per day<sup>137</sup> with a minimum of:
    - At least 25% of nursing and personal care time (0.625 hours) be provided by a licensed nurse; and
    - At least 10% of nursing and personal care time (0.25 hours) be provided by a registered nurse;<sup>138</sup>
- Indiana, subject to certain waivers, requires that comprehensive care facilities:
  - Staff enough nurses to provide 0.5 hours of licensed nurse time per resident per day, averaged over each one-week period; and
  - Use the services of a registered nurse for at least 8 consecutive hours per day.<sup>139</sup>
- Maine requires licensed nursing facilities:
  - To have a registered professional nurse on duty for at least 8 consecutive hours per day;<sup>140</sup> and
  - To have staffing on shifts as follows:

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<sup>135</sup> See Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. 111-8-56-.04(6).

<sup>136</sup> See 210 Ill. Comp. Stat. 45/3-202.05(e).

<sup>137</sup> See 210 Ill. Comp. Stat. 45/3-202.05(d)(5) (2013),

<https://www.ilga.gov/legislation/iles/ilcs4.asp?DocName=021000450HArt%2E+III+Pt%2E+2&ActID=1225&ChapterID=21&SeqStart=11400000&SeqEnd=14700000>.

<sup>138</sup> See 210 Ill. Comp. Stat. 45/3-202.05(e).

<sup>139</sup> See 410 Ind. Admin. Code 16.2-3.1-17(b) (2019), <https://www.in.gov/health/files/A00162.pdf#page=46>.

<sup>140</sup> See 10-144-110 Me. Code R. § 9.A.3(a) (2023),

<https://www.maine.gov/sos/cec/rules/10/144/ch110/14411009.doc>.

- For the day shift:
    - A licensed nurse must be on duty 7 days a week; and
    - If the licensed nursing facility has more than 20 beds, the facility must have an additional licensed nurse on duty, with
      - One additional nurse for every 50 beds above the first 50 beds; and
      - One more additional licensed nurse for each multiple of 100 over the first 100 beds;<sup>141</sup>
  - For the evening shift:
    - A licensed nurse on duty 8 hours each evening; and
    - An additional licensed nurse for each 70 beds, and
      - If the facility has over 100 beds, one of the additional licensed nurses must be a registered professional nurse;<sup>142</sup> and
      - For a night shift with less than 100 beds, a licensed nurse must be on duty for 8 hours with a registered professional nurse on call;<sup>143</sup> and
  - For a night shift in a facility with 100 or more beds, a licensed nurse must be on duty for 8 hours plus an additional licensed nurse for each 100 beds, a registered professional nurse on duty, and a registered professional nurse on call.<sup>144</sup>
- Maryland requires that nursing homes having:
  - 1-99 residents, have 1 registered nurse;<sup>145</sup>
  - 100-199 residents, having 2 registered nurses;
  - 200-299 residents, having 3 registered nurses; and

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<sup>141</sup> See 10-144-110 Me. Code R. § 9.A.3(b)(1).

<sup>142</sup> See 10-144-110 Me. Code R. § 9.A.3(b)(2).

<sup>143</sup> See 10-144-110 Me. Code R. § 9.A.3.b(3).

<sup>144</sup> See *id.*

<sup>145</sup> See Md. Code Regs. 10.07.02.19(C)(1) (2019), <https://health.maryland.gov/regs/Pages/10-07-020219-5111.aspx>.

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- 300-399 residents, having 4 registered nurses.<sup>146</sup>
- Massachusetts requires that:
  - Intensive care units:
    - Develop an acuity tool<sup>147</sup> using an advisory committee with at least half the members being staff nurses,<sup>148</sup> and
    - Use that acuity tool under the restrictions that staffing will use a 1:1 or 1:2 nurse-to-patient ratio depending upon the stability of the patient as assessed by the acuity tool and by the staff nurses in the unit for the determination;<sup>149</sup>
  - A registered nurse provide at least 0.508 hours of care to each resident per day in the following facilities:<sup>150</sup>
    - Intensive nursing and rehabilitative care facilities (Level I),<sup>151</sup> which must also have a nurse present 24 hours a day for each unit;<sup>152</sup>
    - Skilled nursing care facilities (Level II),<sup>153</sup> which must also have a charge nurse present 24 hours a day for each unit;<sup>154</sup> and
    - Supportive nursing care facilities (Level III),<sup>155</sup> which must also have a nurse present during the day and evening shifts.<sup>156</sup>

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<sup>146</sup> See Md. Code Regs. 10.07.02.19(A)(1).

<sup>147</sup> 958 Mass. Code Regs. 8.02 (2023) defines "Acuity Tool" as "A decision support tool using a method for assessing patient stability for the ICU Patient according to a defined set of indicators (including Clinical Indicators of Patient Stability and Indicators of Staff Nurse Workload) and used in the determination of a Patient Assignment." <https://www.mass.gov/doc/958-cmr-8-patient-assignment-limits-for-registered-nurses-in-intensive-care-units-in-acute-hospitals/download>.

<sup>148</sup> See 958 Mass. Code Regs. 8.06(2) (2023), <https://www.mass.gov/doc/958-cmr-8-patient-assignment-limits-for-registered-nurses-in-intensive-care-units-in-acute-hospitals/download#page=3>.

<sup>149</sup> See Mass. Gen. Laws ch. 111, § 231 (2023), <https://malegislature.gov/Laws/GeneralLaws/PartI/TitleXVI/Chapter111/Section231>.

<sup>150</sup> See 105 Mass. Code Regs. 150.007(B)(2)(d), (3)(d), and (4)(d).

<sup>151</sup> See 105 Mass. Code Regs. 150.001 for levels of long-term care facilities or units, <https://www.mass.gov/doc/105-cmr-150-standards-for-long-term-care-facilities/download#page=5>.

<sup>152</sup> See 105 Mass. Code Regs. 150.007(B)(2)(c) (2023), <https://www.mass.gov/doc/105-cmr-150-standards-for-long-term-care-facilities/download#page=22>.

<sup>153</sup> See 105 Mass. Code Regs. 150.001 (2023) for levels of long-term care facilities or units.

<sup>154</sup> See 105 Mass. Code Regs. 150.007(B)(3)(c) (2023).

<sup>155</sup> See 105 Mass. Code Regs. 150.001 (2023) for levels of long-term care facilities or units.

<sup>156</sup> See 105 Mass. Code Regs. 150.007(B)(4)(b) (2023).

## EXISTING NURSING STAFFING STANDARDS AND REGULATIONS IN OTHER STATES

- New York requires:
  - For intensive care or critical care patients, at least one registered professional nurse for every 2 patients;<sup>157</sup>
  - For burn units or centers, at least one registered professional nurse for every 3 patients;<sup>158</sup> and
  - For nursing homes:
    - 1.1 hours of care per patient must be provided by a registered professional nurse or licensed practical nurse;<sup>159</sup> and
    - A registered nurse must be present for at least 8 consecutive hours per day or more, as necessary to satisfy minimum hourly staffing requirements.<sup>160</sup>
- Oregon requires minimum nurse-to-patient ratios as follows:
  - In emergency departments, the minimum direct care registered nurse to patient ratio shall be:
    - 1:1 for trauma patients;
    - An average of no more than 1:4 over a 12-hour shift (direct care registered nurses assigned to trauma patients may not be taken into account in determining the average ratio); and
    - 1:5 at any time;<sup>161</sup>
  - 1:2 in intensive care units;
  - In labor and delivery units:
    - 1:2 if the patients are not in active labor or experiencing complications; and

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<sup>157</sup> See N.Y. Comp. Codes R. & Regs. tit. 10, § 405.22(a)(5) and (d)(1)(ii)(b) (2023), <https://regs.health.ny.gov/content/section-40522-critical-care-and-special-care-services>.

<sup>158</sup> See N.Y. Comp. Codes R. & Regs. tit. 10, § 405.22(d)(1)(ii)(c).

<sup>159</sup> See N.Y. Pub. Health Law § 2895-B(3)(b) (2022), <https://www.nysenate.gov/legislation/laws/PBH/2895-B>, and N.Y. Comp. Codes R. & Regs. tit. 10, § 415.13(b)(2)(ii), <https://regs.health.ny.gov/content/section-41513-nursing-services>.

<sup>160</sup> See N.Y. Comp. Codes R. & Regs. tit. 10, § 415.13(c) (2022).

<sup>161</sup> See Or. Rev. Stat. § 441.765(2)(a) (2023), [https://www.oregonlegislature.gov/bills\\_laws/ors/ors441.html](https://www.oregonlegislature.gov/bills_laws/ors/ors441.html).

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- 1:1 if the patient is in active labor or if the patient is in any stage of labor and is experiencing complications;
  - 1:6 in postpartum, antepartum, and well-baby nurseries (counting mother and baby each as separate patients);
  - 1:8 in mother-baby units (counting mother and baby each as separate patients);
  - 1:1 in operating rooms;
  - 1:4 in oncology units;
  - 1:2 in post-anesthesia care units;
  - 1:3 in intermediate care units;
  - 1:4 in medical-surgical units;
  - 1:4 in cardiac telemetry units; and
  - 1:4 in pediatric units.<sup>162</sup>
- Pennsylvania requires that long-term care facilities provide:
  - A minimum of one licensed practical nurse per:
    - 25 residents during the day shift;
    - 30 residents during the evening shift; and
    - 40 residents during the overnight shift;<sup>163</sup> and
  - At least one registered nurse per 250 residents during all shifts.<sup>164</sup>
- Utah requires that:
  - Skilled nursing facilities:
    - Have a registered nurse be on duty at least 16 hours per 24-hour period to plan, assign, supervise or provide, and evaluate the nursing care needs of the residents; and

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<sup>162</sup> See Or. Rev. Stat. § 441.765(2).

<sup>163</sup> See 28 Pa. Code § 211.12(f.1)(4) (2024),

<https://www.pacodeandbulletin.gov/Display/pacode?file=/secure/pacode/data/028/chapter211/s211.12.html>.

<sup>164</sup> See 28 Pa. Code § 211.12(f.1)(5).

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- Provide each resident with at least 45 minutes of nursing care by a registered nurse or licensed practical nurse per day;<sup>165</sup> and
  - Intermediate care facilities provide each resident with at least 36 minutes of nursing care per day from a registered nurse or licensed practical nurse.<sup>166</sup>
  - End-state renal disease facilities:
    - Have a nurse supervising clinical care whenever patients are receiving dialysis services;<sup>167</sup>
    - Have registered nurse supervising the clinical care of not more than:
      - 10 patients if arranged in an open setting; or
      - 12 patients if arranged in three pods of 4 patients;<sup>168</sup> and
    - Have a 1:4 minimum ratio of patients to dialysis technicians or licensed practical nurses assigned to patient clinical care;<sup>169</sup> and
  - Skilled-level of care nursing facilities employ a registered nurse for at least 8 consecutive hours per day.<sup>170</sup>
- Washington requires that pediatric transitional care services:
  - Have one registered nurse on duty at all times; and
  - Have one registered nurse or licensed practical nurse per 8 infants.<sup>171</sup>
- Wisconsin requires that nursing homes:
  - Have a charge nurse who is either a:
    - Professional nurse; or

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<sup>165</sup> See Utah Admin. Code r. 432-151-20(2)(b) and (7) (2022), <https://adminrules.utah.gov/public/rule/R432-151/Current%20Rules?searchText=432-151-20#>.

<sup>166</sup> See Utah Admin. Code r. 432-151-20(7).

<sup>167</sup> See Utah Admin. Code r. 432-650-7(3) (2021), <https://adminrules.utah.gov/public/rule/R432-650/Current%20Rules?searchText=432-650-7#>.

<sup>168</sup> See Utah Admin. Code r. 432-650-7(3)(a).

<sup>169</sup> See Utah Admin. Code r. 432-650-7(3)(c).

<sup>170</sup> See Utah Admin. Code r. 432-150-5(3)(d) (2023), <https://adminrules.utah.gov/public/rule/R432-150/Current%20Rules?searchText=432-150-5#>.

<sup>171</sup> See Wash. Rev. Code § 71.12.684(3)(a) and (b) (2023), <https://app.leg.wa.gov/rcw/default.aspx?cite=71.12.684>.

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- Licensed practical nurse acting under the supervision of a professional nurse or physician;<sup>172</sup> and
  - Have registered enough nurses or licensed practical nurses to provide:
    - For residents in need of intensive skilled nursing care, 0.65 hours per day;
    - For residents in need of skilled nursing care: 0.5 hours per day; and
    - For residents in need of intermediate or limited nursing care: 0.4 hours per day.<sup>173</sup>
- West Virginia requires neonatal abstinence centers:
  - Have a minimum registered professional nurse to patient ratio of 1:4; and
  - Have at least 2 licensed nurses on each shift, one of which must be a registered professional nurse.<sup>174</sup>

### **Requirements for the Establishment of a Staffing Committee**

At least eight states require healthcare facilities to establish a committee to develop staffing plans for the facility, including minimum nurse-to-patient ratios. Typically, at least 50% of the committee members must be nurses providing direct care to patients, though a few states specify a higher percentage.

- Colorado requires that:
  - Hospitals use a committee to determine a master nurse staffing plan;
  - At least 60% of the committee members are nurses.
  - The master nurse staffing plan must, among other things:
    - Be recommended by at least 60% of the committee members;
    - Establish minimum staffing requirements;

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<sup>172</sup> See Wis. Stat. § 50.04(2)(b) (2023), <https://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/statutes/statutes/50/i/04>.

<sup>173</sup> See Wis. Stat. § 50.04(2)(d).

<sup>174</sup> See W. Va. Code R. § 69-9-9.3.b and -9.7.d (2023), <https://apps.sos.wv.gov/adlaw/csr/readfile.aspx?DocId=27502&Format=PDF#page=35>.

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- Include guidance to reduce nurse-to-patient assignments based on patient acuity; and
  - Be approved by the hospital's senior nurse executives and hospital's governing body.<sup>175</sup>
- Connecticut requires that:
    - Hospitals establish a hospital staffing committee to assist in preparing a nurse staffing plan that includes nurse-to-patient ratios for the various care units;<sup>176</sup> and
    - 50% of hospital staffing committee members are registered nurses employed by the hospital whose primary responsibility is to provide direct patient care.<sup>177</sup>
  - Illinois requires that:
    - Hospitals have a nursing care committee;
    - At least 55% of the nursing care committee members are registered professional nurses providing direct inpatient care;<sup>178</sup> and
    - The nursing care committee prepares a written hospital-wide staffing plan, specifying minimum staffing levels, among other things,<sup>179</sup> and make that plan available to the public.<sup>180</sup>
  - Massachusetts, as discussed previously,<sup>181</sup> requires a committee to determine nurse-to-patient ratios in an intensive care unit, but only at a 1:1 or 1:2 ratio specified by law.<sup>182</sup>

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<sup>175</sup> See Colo. Rev. Stat. § 25-3-128(2) (2023), <https://advance.lexis.com/documentpage/?pdmfid=1000516&crd=f07fb241-c02f-4a7e-b905-4f4095460e87&nodeid=AAZAADAABAACABI&nodepath=%2FROOT%2FAAZ%2FAAZAAD%2FAAZAADAAB%2FAAZAADAABAAC%2FAAZAADAABAACABI&level=5&haschildren=&populated=false&title=25-3-128.+Hospitals+-+nurses%2C+nurse+aides%2C+and+EMS+providers+-+staffing+requirements+-+enforcement+-+waiver+-+rules+-+definitions.&config=014FJAAYNGJkY2Y4Zi1mNjgyLTRkN2YtYmE4OS03NTYzNzYzOTg0OGEKAFBvZENhdGFsb2d592qv2Kywlf8caKqYROP5&pddocfullpath=%2Fshared%2Fdocument%2Fstatutes-legislation%2Furn%3AcontentItem%3A65TC-V483-GXF6-81B9-00008-00&ecomp=6gf59kk&prid=89803f03-86c4-4384-9bc3-baedf349b743>.

<sup>176</sup> See Conn. Gen. Stat. § 19a-89e(c) (2023), [https://www.cga.ct.gov/current/pub/chap\\_368a.htm#sec\\_19a-89e](https://www.cga.ct.gov/current/pub/chap_368a.htm#sec_19a-89e).

<sup>177</sup> See *id.*

<sup>178</sup> See 210 Ill. Comp. Stat. 85/10.10(d)(1) (2023), <https://www.ilga.gov/legislation/ilcs/fulltext.asp?DocName=021000850K10.10>.

<sup>179</sup> See 210 Ill. Comp. Stat. 85/10.10(c) and (d)(2.5).

<sup>180</sup> See 210 Ill. Comp. Stat. 85/10.10(c)(3) and (d)(4).

<sup>181</sup> See note 148, *supra*.

<sup>182</sup> See note 149, *supra*.



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- Nevada requires that:
  - Hospitals having 70 or more beds, in counties with a population of 100,000 or more:
    - Establish a staffing committee<sup>183</sup> that adequately meets the needs of the patients, including, "[t]he number, skill mix and classification of licensed nurses required in each unit in the health care facility, which must take into account the experience of the clinical and nonclinical support staff with whom the licensed nurses collaborate, supervise or otherwise delegate assignments";<sup>184</sup> and
    - That the staffing committee consist of licensed nursing staff and certified nursing assistants providing direct patient care at the hospital,<sup>185</sup> but the law also allows the staffing committee to be established through collective bargaining instead of by the hospital;<sup>186</sup> and
  - Facilities for skilled nursing have a registered nurse on duty for at least 8 consecutive hours per day.<sup>187</sup>
- New York requires that:
  - General hospitals maintain a clinical staffing committee;<sup>188</sup>
  - At least 50% of the clinical staffing committee members are nurses and frontline individuals providing direct patient care;<sup>189</sup> and
  - The clinical staffing committee develops a clinical staffing plan that specifies staffing with ratios or a similar measure for each patient care unit and work shift, based on the needs of patients.<sup>190</sup>

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<sup>183</sup> See Nev. Rev. Stat. § 449.242(1) (2023), <https://www.leg.state.nv.us/nrs/nrs-449.html#NRS449Sec242>.

<sup>184</sup> Nev. Rev. Stat. § 449.2421 (2023), <https://www.leg.state.nv.us/nrs/nrs-449.html#NRS449Sec2421>.

<sup>185</sup> See Nev. Rev. Stat. § 449.242(1)(a).

<sup>186</sup> See Nev. Rev. Stat. § 449.242(4).

<sup>187</sup> See Nev. Admin Code § 449.74517(4) (2021), <https://www.leg.state.nv.us/nac/nac-449.html#NAC449Sec74517>.

<sup>188</sup> See N.Y. Pub. Health Law § 2805-T(2)(a) and (c) (2021), <https://www.nysenate.gov/legislation/laws/PBH/2805-T>.

<sup>189</sup> See *id.*

<sup>190</sup> See N.Y. Pub. Health Law § 2805-T(4)(a).

- Ohio requires that:
  - Hospitals establish a hospital-wide nursing care committee<sup>191</sup> to recommend a nursing services staffing plan;<sup>192</sup> and
  - At least 50% of the hospital-wide nursing care committee members are registered nurses who provide direct patient care in the hospital.<sup>193</sup>
- Texas requires that:
  - Hospitals establish a committee to determine nurse staffing; and
  - At least 60% of the committee members are nurses.<sup>194</sup>
- Washington requires that:
  - Hospitals establish a staffing committee to create a staffing plan;<sup>195</sup> and
  - At least 50% of the staffing committee members are nursing staff.<sup>196</sup>

### Requirements for Public Reporting of Nurse Staffing Levels

Eight states require some form of public reporting<sup>197</sup> of nurse staffing levels. These mandates generally require hospitals to report their nurse-to-patient ratios to their applicable state health department and to make their reports available to the public through either the hospital's website, the health department's website, or both. Some states require quarterly reporting, while other states require annual reporting. Supporters of public reporting argue that it allows consumers to base their healthcare decisions on hospital ratings.<sup>198</sup> However, one study concluded that "[i]t

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<sup>191</sup> See Ohio Rev. Code § 3727.51 (2023), <https://codes.ohio.gov/ohio-revised-code/section-3727.51>.

<sup>192</sup> See Ohio Rev. Code § 3727.52 (2023), <https://codes.ohio.gov/ohio-revised-code/section-3727.52>.

<sup>193</sup> See *supra* note 191.

<sup>194</sup> See Tex. Health & Safety Code Ann. §§ 257.003 and 257.004 (2023), <https://statutes.capitol.texas.gov/Docs/HS/htm/HS.257.htm>.

<sup>195</sup> See Wash. Rev. Code § 70.41.420 (2023), <https://app.leg.wa.gov/rcw/default.aspx?cite=70.41.420>.

<sup>196</sup> See Wash. Rev. Code § 70.41.420(2)(a).

<sup>197</sup> This section does not address public *access* to nurse staffing data through a state's equivalent freedom of information law or other applicable statute or rule. See, e.g., 26 Tex. Admin. Code § 554.1001(b)(3) (2024) ("The [nursing] facility must, upon oral or written request, make copies of nurse staffing data available to the public for review at a cost not to exceed the community standard rate."). [https://texreg.sos.state.tx.us/public/readtac\\$ext.TacPage?sl=T&app=9&p\\_dir=F&p\\_rloc=207303&p\\_tloc=9699&p\\_ploc=1&pg=2&p\\_tac=&ti=26&pt=1&ch=554&rl=1001](https://texreg.sos.state.tx.us/public/readtac$ext.TacPage?sl=T&app=9&p_dir=F&p_rloc=207303&p_tloc=9699&p_ploc=1&pg=2&p_tac=&ti=26&pt=1&ch=554&rl=1001).

<sup>198</sup> See Pamela B. de Cordova, et al., *Public Reporting of Nurse Staffing in the United States*, 10(3) J. Nursing Reg., 14-20 (2019), <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC6996505/pdf/nihms-1067311.pdf#page=3>.

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remains unclear whether consumers use nurse staffing reports when selecting a hospital and whether these data improve hospital nurse staffing."<sup>199</sup>

- Illinois requires that:
  - Hospitals prepare a quarterly report that includes, among other things, nursing hours per patient day, average daily census, and average daily hours worked for each clinical service area;<sup>200</sup>
  - Hospitals make all reports available to the public on-site; and
  - The Illinois Department of Public Health:
    - Also make the reports available to the public;<sup>201</sup> and
    - Summarize the report information into a report to the Illinois Legislature and publish that report on its website.<sup>202</sup>
  
- Massachusetts requires that:
  - Acute hospitals report to the Massachusetts Department of Public Health their nurse-to-patient ratios for each intensive care unit,<sup>203</sup> and
  - Acute hospitals also post the reports on the acute hospital's website or as specified by the Massachusetts Health Policy Commission.<sup>204</sup>
  
- Minnesota requires that:
  - The chief nursing executive or nursing designee of every reporting hospital to develop a core staffing plan;
  - Hospitals report quarterly data for actual direct patient care hours on a per-patient and per-unit basis;<sup>205</sup> and
  - The plan and the hours of the hospital reports be published on the Minnesota Hospital Association's website.<sup>206</sup>

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<sup>199</sup> *Id.*

<sup>200</sup> See 210 Ill. Comp. Stat. 86/25(a) (2023), <https://ilga.gov/legislation/ilcs/ilcs3.asp?ActID=2466&ChapterID=21>.

<sup>201</sup> See 210 Ill. Comp. Stat. 86/25(d).

<sup>202</sup> See 210 Ill. Comp. Stat. 86/30.

<sup>203</sup> See 958 Mass. Code Regs. 8.10(1) (2015), <https://www.mass.gov/doc/958-cmr-8-patient-assignment-limits-for-registered-nurses-in-intensive-care-units-in-acute-hospitals/download#page=4>.

<sup>204</sup> See 958 Mass. Code Regs. 8.10(2).

<sup>205</sup> See Minn. Stat. § 144.7055 (2023), <https://www.revisor.mn.gov/statutes/cite/144.7055>.

<sup>206</sup> See *id.*

## EXISTING NURSING STAFFING STANDARDS AND REGULATIONS IN OTHER STATES

- New Jersey requires each general hospital to post information daily, in the patient care area of each unit of the hospital, and provide the same to members of the public upon request, detailing for each unit and prevailing shift:
  - The number of registered professional nurses providing direct patient care;
  - The ratio of patients to registered professional nurses;
  - The number of licensed practical nurses providing direct patient care; and
  - The ratio of patients to licensed practical nurses.<sup>207</sup>
- New York requires that:
  - Each quarter,<sup>208</sup> hospitals report nurse staffing,<sup>209</sup> including the number of registered and licensed practical nurses providing direct care and the ratio of patients per registered nurse providing direct care, expressed in actual numbers and terms of total hours of nursing care per patient;<sup>210</sup>
  - The reports specify the methods used for determining and adjusting staffing levels and patient care needs, as well as the hospital's compliance with those methods;<sup>211</sup> and
  - The New York State Department of Health make the information from the reports available to the public on the department's website.<sup>212</sup>
- Rhode Island requires that:
  - Licensed hospitals annually submit core-staffing plans to the Rhode Island Department of Health;<sup>213</sup> and
  - The core-staffing plan specify for each patient care unit and each shift:
    - The number of registered nurses, licensed practical nurses, and certified nursing assistants assigned to provide direct patient care; and

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<sup>207</sup> See N.J. Rev. Stat. § 26:2H-5g (2023).

<sup>208</sup> See N.Y. Pub. Health Law § 2805-T(17)(c) (2021), <https://www.nysenate.gov/legislation/laws/PBH/2805-T>.

<sup>209</sup> See N.Y. Pub. Health Law § 2805-T(17)(a).

<sup>210</sup> See N.Y. Pub. Health Law § 2805-T(17)(a)(i) and (ii).

<sup>211</sup> See N.Y. Pub. Health Law § 2805-T(17)(a)(v).

<sup>212</sup> See N.Y. Pub. Health Law § 2805-T(17)(c).

<sup>213</sup> See R.I. Gen. Laws. § 23-17.17-8 (2023), <http://webserver.rilin.state.ri.us/Statutes/title23/23-17.17/23-17.17.8.HTM>.

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- The average number of patients upon which such staffing levels are based.<sup>214</sup>
- Vermont requires that:
  - Hospitals disclose nurse staffing levels in their Hospital Report Cards;<sup>215</sup>
  - As part of the requirements imposed by the Vermont Department of Health, hospitals report nurse hours by registered nurses and licensed practical nurses, a patient census, and the daily nurse hours per patient day;<sup>216</sup> and
  - The reports be submitted at least every 3 months.<sup>217</sup>
- Washington requires reporting when a hospital is out of compliance with its nurse staffing plan.<sup>218</sup>

### **Requirements Prohibiting or Limiting Mandatory Overtime**

Eighteen states prohibit or limit overtime hours for nurses.<sup>219</sup> Overtime hours are generally considered the hours worked beyond a normally scheduled shift or more than forty hours during a week. The prohibitions typically prohibit employers from requiring nurses to work more than twelve hours per day, though some states have a higher limit (*e.g.*, Massachusetts sets a sixteen-hour limit). Common exceptions to overtime prohibitions include emergencies, surgery completion, patient care completion, and to protect the public. The prohibitions prohibit employers from taking adverse action against a nurse who refuses to work overtime hours. Some states

<sup>214</sup> *See id.*

<sup>215</sup> While the term "Hospital Report Card" is only used unofficially (*see infra* note 216), the reports are required to include "[v]alid, reliable, and useful information on nurse staffing, including comparisons to appropriate industry benchmarks for safety. This information may include system-centered measures such as skill mix, nursing care hours per patient day, and other system-centered measures for which reliable industry benchmarks become available." Vt. Stat. Ann. tit. 18, § 9405b(a)(4) (2023),

<https://legislature.vermont.gov/statutes/section/18/221/09405b>.

<sup>216</sup> *See* Nurse Staffing Data Collection Templates, available at <https://www.healthvermont.gov/stats/systems/hospital-report-cards>. (Click "For Vermont hospitals" and then download "Nurse Staffing Data Collection Template: FTE based (for April 2023-March 2024)" or "Nurse Staffing Data Collection Template: Hour based (for April 2023-March 2024)").

<sup>217</sup> *See* Hospital Report Card Reporting Manual for the Community Hospitals, page 5, available at <https://www.healthvermont.gov/sites/default/files/document/HSI-stats-HRC-Manual-for-Community-Hospital-2024.pdf>, and Hospital Report Card Reporting Manual for the Psychiatric Hospitals, page 3, available at <https://www.healthvermont.gov/sites/default/files/document/HSI-stats-HRC-Manual-for-Psych-Hospital-2024.pdf>.

<sup>218</sup> *See* Wash. Rev. Code § 70.41.410(7)(b)(i) (2023), <https://app.leg.wa.gov/rcw/default.aspx?cite=70.41.420>. This reporting requirement takes effect in 2026.

<sup>219</sup> *See* Morganne Skinner, *A Guide to Mandatory Overtime for Nurses*, IntelyCare, <https://www.intelycare.com/career-advice/a-guide-to-mandatory-overtime-for-nurses/>, and Maura Deering, *Understanding Mandatory Overtime for Nurses: Which States Enforce Mandatory Overtime?*, NurseJournal, October 3, 2023, <https://nursejournal.org/resources/mandatory-overtime-for-nurses/>.

explicitly allow nurses to volunteer for overtime hours, though the remaining states that establish prohibitions do not expressly forbid nurses from volunteering for an overtime shift. Lastly, the prohibitions typically prescribe a mandatory off-duty rest period (usually eight to ten hours) before returning to work after a regularly scheduled shift or an overtime shift.

- Alaska requires that:
  - Healthcare facilities cannot require a nurse to work beyond a scheduled shift<sup>220</sup> or to accept an assignment of overtime that would jeopardize patient or employee safety,<sup>221</sup> except:
    - For nurses on duty for special events held by an educational institution;<sup>222</sup>
    - When volunteering on an aircraft;<sup>223</sup>
    - Overtime incurred for completion of a medical procedure or surgery;<sup>224</sup>
    - Overtime incurred due to an unforeseen emergency situation;<sup>225</sup>
    - Overtime incurred due to an unforeseen weather condition;<sup>226</sup>
    - For health care facilities located in a rural community that declare a temporary nurse staffing emergency;<sup>227</sup> and
    - For other limited circumstances;<sup>228</sup>
  - If a nurse volunteers for an overtime shift, the overtime shift generally must not exceed 14 hours,<sup>229</sup> except a 16-hour shift is permissible from late Fridays to early Mondays if the nurse is provided with additional pay,<sup>230</sup> and
  - Nurses must be given at least 10 hours off duty following a shift.<sup>231</sup>

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<sup>220</sup> See Alaska Stat. § 18.20.400(a)(1) (2023), <https://www.akleg.gov/basis/statutes.asp#18.20.400>.

<sup>221</sup> See Alaska Stat. § 18.20.400(a)(2).

<sup>222</sup> See Alaska Stat. § 18.20.400(c)(1).

<sup>223</sup> See Alaska Stat. § 18.20.400(c)(2).

<sup>224</sup> See Alaska Stat. § 18.20.400(c)(3)(A).

<sup>225</sup> See Alaska Stat. § 18.20.400(c)(3)(B).

<sup>226</sup> See Alaska Stat. § 18.20.400(c)(3)(C).

<sup>227</sup> See Alaska Stat. § 18.20.400(c)(3)(D).

<sup>228</sup> See Alaska Stat. § 18.20.400(c).

<sup>229</sup> See Alaska Stat. § 18.20.400(c)(5).

<sup>230</sup> See Alaska Stat. § 18.20.400(c)(7)(B).

<sup>231</sup> See Alaska Stat. § 18.20.400(b).

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- California requires that:
  - Nurses cannot be assigned to work more than 12 hours during a 24-hour period, except during a health care emergency; provided that all reasonable steps have been taken to provide required staffing and continued overtime by the nurse is necessary to provide required staffing;<sup>232</sup>
  - Nurses cannot be terminated for refusing to work more than 72 hours during a workweek;<sup>233</sup>
  - If a nurse works beyond the assigned hours, the employer must not require the nurse to work more than 16 hours in a 24-hour period;<sup>234</sup> and
  - Nurses be allowed to volunteer to work up to 24 hours during a 24-hour period; provided that the nurse is given at least 8 hours of off-duty time at the end of those hours worked.<sup>235</sup>
  
- Connecticut requires that:
  - Hospitals cannot require nurses work beyond a predetermined scheduled work shift,<sup>236</sup> except overtime incurred:
    - To complete surgery;
    - To a critical care unit when no relief nurse is available;
    - During a public health emergency;
    - During an institutional emergency; or
    - If a collective bargaining agreement specifies an alternative;<sup>237</sup> and
  - Nurses be allowed to volunteer or agree to work overtime hours.<sup>238</sup>

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<sup>232</sup> See California Department of Industrial Relations, Wage Order 4-2001, Section 11040, subsection 3(B)(9) (2023), <https://www.dir.ca.gov/t8/11040.html>.

<sup>233</sup> See California Department of Industrial Relations, Wage Order 4-2001, Section 11040, subsection 3(L).

<sup>234</sup> See California Department of Industrial Relations, Wage Order 4-2001, Section 11040, subsection 3(B)(10).

<sup>235</sup> See *id.*

<sup>236</sup> See Con. Gen. Stat. § 19a-490l(b) (2023), [https://www.cga.ct.gov/current/pub/chap\\_368v.htm#sec\\_19a-490l](https://www.cga.ct.gov/current/pub/chap_368v.htm#sec_19a-490l).

<sup>237</sup> See Con. Gen. Stat. § 19a-490l(c).

<sup>238</sup> See Con. Gen. Stat. § 19a-490l(b).

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- Illinois requires that:
  - Overtime cannot be mandated, except during an unforeseen emergent circumstance when overtime hours are required only as a last resort;<sup>239</sup>
  - Mandated overtime, when allowed, not be more than 4 hours beyond an agreed-to, predetermined work shift;<sup>240</sup>
  - Hospitals cannot generally take adverse action against a nurse who has refused to work mandated overtime;<sup>241</sup> and
  - Total nurse shift hours (including overtime) be limited to a maximum of 12 consecutive hours and that the nurse must be allowed at least 8 consecutive hours of off-duty time immediately following the completion of the shift.<sup>242</sup>
- Maine requires that:
  - Employers cannot discipline any nurse who refuses to work more than 12 consecutive hours, except in the case of an emergent circumstance or for patient safety;<sup>243</sup> and
  - Any nurse who is mandated to work more than 12 consecutive hours be allowed at least 10 hours of off-duty time following the worked overtime.<sup>244</sup>
- Maryland prohibits employers from requiring nurses to work more than the regularly scheduled hours according to the predetermined work schedule, except for:
  - Emergencies;
  - Completing a patient's treatment or procedure;
  - When there's no replacement nurse available; or
  - Other limited circumstances.<sup>245</sup>

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<sup>239</sup> See 210 Ill. Comp. Stat. 85/10.9(b) (2023), <https://www.ilga.gov/legislation/ilcs/fulltext.asp?DocName=021000850K10.9>.

<sup>240</sup> See *id.*

<sup>241</sup> See 210 Ill. Comp. Stat. 85/10.9(d).

<sup>242</sup> See 210 Ill. Comp. Stat. 85/10.9(c).

<sup>243</sup> See Me. Stat. tit. 26, § 603(5) (2023), <https://www.mainelegislature.org/legis/statutes/26/title26sec603.html>.

<sup>244</sup> See *id.*

<sup>245</sup> See Md. Code. Ann., Lab. & Empl., § 3-421 (2023),

<https://mgaleg.maryland.gov/mgawebsite/Laws/StatuteText?article=gle&section=3-421&enactments=false>.



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- Massachusetts requires that:
  - Hospitals cannot require a nurse to work mandatory overtime, except in the case of an emergency, where the safety of the patient requires working overtime, and when there is no reasonable alternative;<sup>246</sup> and
  - Nurses cannot work more than 16 consecutive hours in a 24-hour period and nurses have at least 8 hours of off-duty time following those hours worked.<sup>247</sup>
- Minnesota prohibits hospitals from acting against a nurse for refusing to work hours longer than a normal, 12-hour work period if, in the nurse's judgment, working the excess hours would jeopardize patient safety,<sup>248</sup> except during an emergency<sup>249</sup> or in certain types of facilities.<sup>250</sup>
- Missouri requires that:
  - Ambulatory surgical center policies cannot mandate nurse overtime, except:
    - When an unexpected nurse staffing shortage involves a substantial risk to patient safety;<sup>251</sup>
    - When an unexpected nurse staffing shortage occurs during an unforeseeable emergency;<sup>252</sup> or
    - As agreed upon by the nurses;<sup>253</sup> and
  - Nurses who are required to work more than 12 consecutive hours have the option to take at least 10 hours of time off.<sup>254</sup>

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<sup>246</sup> See Mass. Gen. Laws ch. 111, § 226(b) (2023), <https://malegislature.gov/Laws/GeneralLaws/PartI/TitleXVI/Chapter111/Section226>.

<sup>247</sup> See Mass. Gen. Laws ch. 111, § 226(f).

<sup>248</sup> See Minn. Stat. § 181.275, subd. 1 and 2 (2023), <https://www.revisor.mn.gov/statutes/cite/181.275>.

<sup>249</sup> See Minn. Stat. § 181.275, subd. 3.

<sup>250</sup> See Minn. Stat. § 181.275, subd. 2.

<sup>251</sup> See Mo. Code Regs. Ann. tit. 19, § 30-30.020(1)(C)(9)(A) (2018), <https://www.sos.mo.gov/cmsimages/adrules/csr/current/19csr/19c30-30.pdf#page=4>.

<sup>252</sup> See Mo. Code Regs. Ann. tit. 19, § 30-30.020(1)(C)(9)(C).

<sup>253</sup> See *id.*

<sup>254</sup> See Mo. Code Regs. Ann. tit. 19, § 30-30.020(1)(C)(9)(F).

## EXISTING NURSING STAFFING STANDARDS AND REGULATIONS IN OTHER STATES

- New Hampshire requires that:
  - Nurses cannot be subject to discipline for refusing to work more than 12 consecutive hours, subject to certain exceptions involving emergencies, safety, surgery, shift changes, and collective bargaining;<sup>255</sup> and
  - Nurses mandated to work more than 12 consecutive hours due to an exception must have 8 consecutive hours of off-duty time immediately following the worked overtime.<sup>256</sup>
- New Jersey requires that:
  - Employers cannot require employees to work more than a predetermined shift, not to exceed 40 hours per week, except due to an unforeseeable emergent circumstance, which are:
    - The overtime is required only as a last resort and is not used to fill vacancies resulting from chronic short staffing;
    - The employer has exhausted reasonable efforts to obtain staffing; and
    - An emergency;<sup>257</sup>
  - If an employer requires an employee to work overtime due to an unforeseeable emergent circumstance, the employee must be given up to an hour to arrange for the care of the employee's minor children or elderly or disabled family members;<sup>258</sup> and
  - Employees be allowed to voluntarily work more than 40 hours during a week.<sup>259</sup>

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<sup>255</sup> See N.H. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 275:67 (2023), <https://www.gencourt.state.nh.us/rsa/html/XXIII/275/275-67.htm>.

<sup>256</sup> See *id.*

<sup>257</sup> See N.J. Admin. Code § 8:43E-8.5(a) and (b) (2024),

<https://advance.lexis.com/documentpage/?pdmfid=1000516&crd=834b2544-13f8-4172-9125-6ada925b0b8a&nodeid=AALADEAAJAAF&nodepath=%2FROOT%2FAAL%2FAALADE%2FAALADEAAJ%2FAALADEAAJAAF&level=4&haschildren=&populated=false&title=%C2%A7+8%3A43E-8.5+Overtime+procedures&config=00JAA1YTg5OGJIYi04MTI4LTRiNjQyYjc4Yi03NTQxN2E5NmE0ZjQKAFBvZENhdGFsb2ftaXPxZTR7bRptX1Jok9kz&pddocfullpath=%2Fshared%2Fdocument%2Fadministrative-codes%2Furn%3AcontentItem%3A5XKV-PWC1-JWR6-S4FX-00008-00&ecomp=6gf5kkk&prid=7b346e14-e70d-44d8-83ac-1c1e94e4f804>.

<sup>258</sup> See N.J. Admin. Code § 8:43E-8.5(c).

<sup>259</sup> See N.J. Admin. Code § 8:43E-8.5(a).

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- New York prohibits healthcare employers from requiring a nurse to work more than that nurse's regularly scheduled work hours,<sup>260</sup> except for overtime incurred:
  - Due to a disaster;
  - Due to an emergency; or
  - To complete a surgery.<sup>261</sup>
- Oregon requires that:
  - Hospitals cannot require nurses to work:
    - Beyond the agreed-upon and prearranged shift, regardless of the length of the shift;
    - More than 48 hours in any hospital-defined work week; or
    - More than 12 hours in a 24-hour period;<sup>262</sup> and
  - If a nurse works 12 hours during a 24-hour period, the nurse must be provided with 10 hours of off-duty time before working again,<sup>263</sup> with exceptions for:
    - Emergencies;
    - Potential harm to a patient; and
    - Unforeseen events making a replacement nurse unavailable.<sup>264</sup>
- Pennsylvania requires that:
  - Employers cannot require a nurse to work in excess of an agreed-to, predetermined, and regularly scheduled daily work shift,<sup>265</sup> except for an unforeseeable emergent circumstance;<sup>266</sup> and
  - An employee who is required to work more than 12 consecutive hours per workday or who volunteers to work more than 12 consecutive hours shall be

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<sup>260</sup> See N.Y. Lab. Law § 167(2)(a) (2023), <https://www.nysenate.gov/legislation/laws/LAB/167>.

<sup>261</sup> See N.Y. Lab. Law § 167(3).

<sup>262</sup> See Or. Rev. Stat. § 441.166(3)(a) (2024), [https://oregon.public.law/statutes/ors\\_441.166](https://oregon.public.law/statutes/ors_441.166).

<sup>263</sup> See Or. Rev. Stat. § 441.166(3)(a)(D).

<sup>264</sup> See Or. Rev. Stat. § 441.166(4) and (8).

<sup>265</sup> See 43 Pa. Stat. § 932.3(a) (2023),

[https://govt.westlaw.com/pac/Document/N21174AC0D91811DD93BAC2ED286859A8?viewType=FullText&originContext=documenttoc&transitionType=CategoryPageItem&contextData=\(sc.Default\)](https://govt.westlaw.com/pac/Document/N21174AC0D91811DD93BAC2ED286859A8?viewType=FullText&originContext=documenttoc&transitionType=CategoryPageItem&contextData=(sc.Default)).

<sup>266</sup> See 43 Pa. Stat. § 932.3(c).

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entitled to at least 10 consecutive hours of off-duty time immediately after the worked overtime, though an employee may voluntarily waive this requirement for time off.<sup>267</sup>

- Rhode Island requires that healthcare facilities cannot require an employee to:
  - Accept work; or
  - Work overtime in excess of an agreed-to and predetermined scheduled work shift of 8, 10, or 12 hours, with 12 hours being the maximum shift,<sup>268</sup> except due to unforeseeable emergent circumstances.<sup>269</sup>
- Texas requires that:
  - Hospitals cannot require nurses to work mandatory overtime,<sup>270</sup> except:
    - During a disaster;
    - During an emergency; or
    - To complete surgery;<sup>271</sup> and
  - Nurses be allowed to voluntarily work overtime hours.<sup>272</sup>
- Washington requires that:
  - Healthcare facilities cannot require employees to work overtime,<sup>273</sup> except for:
    - Overtime incurred due to an unforeseeable emergent circumstance;
    - Prescheduled on-call time;
    - To complete patient care; or
    - If the employer has used reasonable efforts to obtain staffing;<sup>274</sup> and

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<sup>267</sup> See 43 Pa. Stat. § 932.3(d).

<sup>268</sup> See 23 R.I. Gen. Laws § 23-17.20-3(a) and (b) (2023), <https://webserver.rilin.state.ri.us/Statutes/TITLE23/23-17.20/23-17.20-3.htm>.

<sup>269</sup> See 23 R.I. Gen. Laws § 23-17.20-3(d).

<sup>270</sup> See Tex. Health & Safety Code Ann. § 258.003(a) (2023), <https://statutes.capitol.texas.gov/Docs/HS/htm/HS.258.htm>.

<sup>271</sup> See Tex. Health & Safety Code Ann. § 258.004(a).

<sup>272</sup> See Tex. Health & Safety Code Ann. § 258.003(b).

<sup>273</sup> See Wash. Rev. Code § 49.28.140(1) (2023), <https://app.leg.wa.gov/rcw/default.aspx?cite=49.28.140>.

<sup>274</sup> See Wash. Rev. Code § 49.28.140(3).

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- Nurses who accept overtime and work more than 12 hours are offered at least 8 hours of time off.<sup>275</sup>
- West Virginia requires that:
  - Hospitals cannot require nurses to accept an assignment of overtime hours,<sup>276</sup> except:
    - During an unforeseen emergent situation that jeopardizes patient safety;<sup>277</sup> or
    - To complete patient care;<sup>278</sup>
  - Shifts generally be limited to 16 hours in a 24-hour period;<sup>279</sup> and
  - Nurses working more than 12 hours be given at least 8 hours of time off following those hours worked.<sup>280</sup>

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<sup>275</sup> See Wash. Rev. Code § 49.28.140(4).

<sup>276</sup> See W. Va. Code § 21-5F-3(a) (2023), <https://code.wvlegislature.gov/21-5F-3>.

<sup>277</sup> See W. Va. Code § 21-5F-3(b).

<sup>278</sup> See W. Va. Code § 21-5F-3(d).

<sup>279</sup> See W. Va. Code § 21-5F-3(g).

<sup>280</sup> See *id.*

## Chapter 4

### SUCCESSFUL EFFORTS TO ADDRESS THE NURSING WORKFORCE SHORTAGE

The Resolution requests the Bureau to examine and assess successful efforts in other states to address the nursing workforce shortage.

While the Bureau acknowledges that opinions may differ on whether an effort was "successful," this chapter discusses various programs that have been publicly reported and for which a report indicates that the program increased the workforce of nurses. Since nurse shortages have occurred in the United States since at least the 1930s,<sup>1</sup> this chapter is not intended to address every successful effort but rather to present options that policymakers may wish to consider.

#### **Background: The Current Nursing Workforce Situation in Hawaii**

To assist policymakers in considering efforts that may be applicable to Hawaii, this chapter first summarizes Hawaii's nursing workforce and barriers to increasing that workforce.

#### **Types of Nurses in Hawaii**

There are three types of nurse licenses available in Hawaii, which are granted by the State Board of Nursing to:<sup>2</sup>

- (1) Licensed practical nurses;
- (2) Registered nurses; and
- (3) Advanced practice registered nurses.

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<sup>1</sup> "By the 1930s, much of the nursing care in the country was provided by nurses who had trained in hospital programs . . . It was during this time that one of the first nursing shortages came about." Ellen Grover, *Nursing Shortages Past and Present*, allnurses, <https://allnurses.com/nursing-shortages-past-present-t743640/> (last visited Sept. 30, 2024) and "[B]y 1936, many hospitals were reporting severe shortages of nurses." *Where Did All the Nurses Go?*, Penn Nursing, <https://www.nursing.upenn.edu/nhhc/workforce-issues/where-did-all-the-nurses-go/> (last visited Sept. 30, 2024).

<sup>2</sup> The State Board of Nursing is the entity of the State of Hawaii, Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs, responsible for licensing licensed practical nurses, registered nurses, and advanced practice registered nurses under chapter 457, Hawaii Revised Statutes. See Haw. Rev. Stat. § 457-5, [https://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/hrscurrent/Vol10\\_Ch0436-0474/HRS0457/HRS\\_0457-0005.htm](https://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/hrscurrent/Vol10_Ch0436-0474/HRS0457/HRS_0457-0005.htm).

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A licensed practical nurse license (referenced in statute as a "license to practice nursing as a licensed practical nurse"<sup>3</sup>) provides the holder with the right to use the title "Licensed Practical Nurse" and the abbreviation "L.P.N."<sup>4</sup> Of the three nurse licenses, obtaining a licensed practical nurse license requires completion of the least rigorous curriculum,<sup>5</sup> which typically requires two semesters and a summer session of coursework in practical nursing and non-nursing prerequisite courses.<sup>6</sup> Licensed practical nurses have the narrowest scope of practice and the least authority. Licensed practical nurses must practice under the supervision of a registered nurse, advanced practice registered nurse, physician, or other authorized licensed health care provider.<sup>7</sup> A licensed practical nurse's scope of practice includes participating in nursing care, planning for patient care, patient surveillance and monitoring, documenting care, and implementing nursing interventions and prescribed medical regimens.<sup>8</sup>

A registered nurse license (referenced in statute as a "license to practice nursing as a registered nurse"<sup>9</sup>) provides the holder with the right to use the title "Registered Nurse" and the abbreviation "R.N."<sup>10</sup> A registered nurse license requires the individual to obtain either a bachelor's degree in nursing<sup>11</sup> or an associate degree in nursing,<sup>12</sup> both of which are a more rigorous curriculum than that of a licensed practical nurse.<sup>13</sup> Registered nurses' scope of practice includes providing nursing assessment of the health status of patients, developing comprehensive patient-centered health care plans, and teaching nursing.<sup>14</sup>

An advanced practice registered nurse license (officially referenced in statute as "an advanced practice registered nurse license"<sup>15</sup> and a "license from the board [of nursing] to practice as an advanced practice registered nurse"<sup>16</sup>) provides the holder with the right to use the title "Advanced Practice Registered Nurse" and the abbreviation "A.P.R.N."<sup>17</sup> Of the three licenses, advanced practice registered nurses have the broadest scope of practice and the most authority, which includes conducting advanced assessments; ordering and interpreting diagnostic

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<sup>3</sup> See Haw. Rev. Stat. § 457-8(e), [https://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/hrscurrent/Vol10\\_Ch0436-0474/HRS0457/HRS\\_0457-0008.htm](https://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/hrscurrent/Vol10_Ch0436-0474/HRS0457/HRS_0457-0008.htm).

<sup>4</sup> *Id.*

<sup>5</sup> See Haw. Code R. § 16-89-48, <https://cca.hawaii.gov/pvl/files/2013/08/HAR-89-C.pdf#page=30>.

<sup>6</sup> See PN General Information and Requirements, Hawaii Community College, <https://hawaii.hawaii.edu/nursing/PN-general15-16> (last visited Dec. 10, 2024).

<sup>7</sup> See NCSBN Model Rules, The National Council of State Boards of Nursing, August 2021, 2-4, [https://www.ncsbn.org/public-files/21\\_Model\\_Rules.pdf#page=5](https://www.ncsbn.org/public-files/21_Model_Rules.pdf#page=5), and NCSBN Model Act, The National Council of State Boards of Nursing, August 2021, 3-6, [https://www.ncsbn.org/public-files/21\\_Model\\_Act.pdf#page=6](https://www.ncsbn.org/public-files/21_Model_Act.pdf#page=6), as adopted by the Board of Nursing under Haw. Code R. § 16-89-126.

<sup>8</sup> See *supra* note 7.

<sup>9</sup> See Haw. Rev. Stat. § 457-7(d), [https://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/hrscurrent/Vol10\\_Ch0436-0474/HRS0457/HRS\\_0457-0007.htm](https://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/hrscurrent/Vol10_Ch0436-0474/HRS0457/HRS_0457-0007.htm).

<sup>10</sup> See *id.*

<sup>11</sup> Typically, a four-year course of study.

<sup>12</sup> Typically, a two-year course of study.

<sup>13</sup> See Haw. Code R. § 16-89-10(1) and 16-89-47(d). See also *supra* note 5.

<sup>14</sup> See *supra* note 7.

<sup>15</sup> See Haw. Rev. Stat. § 457-8.5(a), [https://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/hrscurrent/Vol10\\_Ch0436-0474/HRS0457/HRS\\_0457-0008\\_0005.htm](https://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/hrscurrent/Vol10_Ch0436-0474/HRS0457/HRS_0457-0008_0005.htm).

<sup>16</sup> See Haw. Rev. Stat. § 457-8.5(d).

<sup>17</sup> See *id.*

procedures; establishing diagnoses; and prescribing controlled substances.<sup>18</sup> An advanced practice registered nurse license requires the individual to complete an accredited graduate-level education program preparing the nurse for one of the four recognized advanced practice registered nurse roles<sup>19</sup> (commonly called an "APRN certification"<sup>20</sup>), which are:

- (1) Nurse practitioner ("NP");<sup>21</sup>
- (2) Certified registered nurse anesthetist ("CRNA");
- (3) Certified nurse-midwife ("CNM"); and
- (4) Clinical nurse specialist ("CNS").<sup>22</sup>

### Hawaii Workforce Supply

From April 17, 2023, to June 30, 2023, (the most recent biennial renewal period for nurse licensure in Hawaii<sup>23</sup>), 31,795 nurses applied to renew a licensed practical nurse license, registered nurse license, advanced practice registered nurse license, or a combination of those licenses.<sup>24</sup> These license holders include individuals who live in Hawaii (have a primary residential address in Hawaii) and individuals who primarily live outside Hawaii. Nurses who do not live in Hawaii appear to have a limited impact on Hawaii's nursing workforce.<sup>25</sup>

Of the 31,795 active nurse licenses, there were 1,658 active licensed practical nurse licenses, with 1,236 of those licensed practical nurse license holders (75%) reporting a primary residential address in Hawaii.<sup>26</sup> An estimated 13.9% of those licensed practical nurse license

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<sup>18</sup> See *supra* note 7.

<sup>19</sup> See Haw. Rev. Stat. § 457-8.5(a)(4).

<sup>20</sup> See Carrie M. Oliveira, 2023 Hawaii'i Nursing Workforce Supply Statewide Data Tables by License, Hawaii'i State Center for Nursing (2023), 14, <https://www.hawaiiicenterfornursing.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/09/State-Data-Tables-v.Final-1.pdf#page=11>.

<sup>21</sup> See *infra* note 40 for information on nurse practitioners.

<sup>22</sup> See Haw. Code R. § 16-89-81(a), <https://cca.hawaii.gov/pvl/files/2013/08/HAR-89-C.pdf#page=39>.

<sup>23</sup> See Haw. Code R. § 16-89-27 and 16-89-87(a). See also Board of Nursing, <https://cca.hawaii.gov/pvl/boards/nursing/>.

<sup>24</sup> See *Survey Method, 2023 Hawaii Nursing Workforce Supply*, Hawaii'i State Center for Nursing, 4-5 (2023), <https://www.hawaiiicenterfornursing.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/09/2023-Supply-Survey-Method.vFinal.pdf#page=4>.

<sup>25</sup> See Carrie M. Oliveira, 2023 Hawaii'i Nursing Workforce Supply Report; *A Biennial Survey of Hawaii's Nurses*, Hawaii'i State Center for Nursing, 4 (2023), <https://www.hawaiiicenterfornursing.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/04/2023HawaiiNursingWorkforceSupply.vFinal.pdf#page=12>.

<sup>26</sup> See *id.* at 5-6. For purposes of classifying licenses, the data classified licensees by the highest nursing license held. For example, an individual holding both a licensed practical nurse license and a registered nurse license, but not an advanced practice registered nurse license, was classified as a registered nurse. *Survey Method, 2023 Hawaii Nursing Workforce Supply*, Hawaii'i State Center for Nursing, 5 (2023), <https://www.hawaiiicenterfornursing.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/09/2023-Supply-Survey-Method.vFinal.pdf#page=5>.



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holders were not working in a nursing license-relevant role,<sup>27</sup> resulting in an estimated 1,065 licensed practical nurse license holders employed in a nursing license-relevant role in Hawaii.<sup>28</sup>

Of 31,795 active nurse licenses, there were 29,639 active registered nurse licenses, with 16,454 of those registered nurse license holders (56%) reporting a primary residential address in Hawaii.<sup>29</sup> An estimated 11.6% of active registered nurse license holders were not working in a nursing license-relevant role, resulting in an estimated 14,545 registered nurse license holders employed in a nursing license-relevant role in Hawaii.<sup>30</sup>

Of 31,795 active nurse licenses, there were 2,455 active advanced practice registered nurse licenses, with 1,444 of those advanced practice registered nurse license holders (59%) reporting a primary residential address in Hawaii.<sup>31</sup> An estimated 8.6% of those advanced practice registered nurse license holders were not working in a nursing license-relevant role, resulting in an estimated 1,320 advanced practice registered nurse license holders employed in a nursing license-relevant role in Hawaii.<sup>32</sup>

Accordingly, of the total estimated population of 16,390 licensed nurses working in a nursing license-relevant role in Hawaii, 1,065 are licensed practical nurse license holders, 14,545 are registered nurse license holders, and 1,320 are advanced practice registered nurse license holders.

### **Hawaii Workforce Demand**

Surveys by the Healthcare Association of Hawaii, covering the period of February 2022 to June 2022, identified various filled and open nurse positions.<sup>33</sup> The survey results were compiled in a report that also included the compiled results from the 2019 surveys.<sup>34</sup> Although the surveys did not represent all of Hawaii's healthcare industry,<sup>35</sup> the information appears to be representative of the percentage of vacancies in various healthcare positions. It also appears that the vacancy rate for licensed practical nurses and registered nurses has increased while the vacancy rate for advanced practice registered nurses has remained the same.

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<sup>27</sup> See *id.* at 6.

<sup>28</sup> See *id.*

<sup>29</sup> See Oliveira, *supra* note 25, at 26.

<sup>30</sup> See *id.*

<sup>31</sup> See *id.* at 42.

<sup>32</sup> See *id.*

<sup>33</sup> See *Hawai'i Healthcare Workforce Initiative 2022 Report*, Healthcare Association of Hawaii, 11 (2022), [https://static1.squarespace.com/static/5d703ec20712890001abe61f/t/6371dd4102fbca73ff8d0539/1668406609446/H\\_AH\\_HWI2022Report-111122\\_LR.pdf](https://static1.squarespace.com/static/5d703ec20712890001abe61f/t/6371dd4102fbca73ff8d0539/1668406609446/H_AH_HWI2022Report-111122_LR.pdf).

<sup>34</sup> See *id.*

<sup>35</sup> See *id.* at 4.

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From the responsive surveys, licensed practical nurses had a total position count of 694, of which 211 positions were open (30%).<sup>36</sup> Compared to the 2019 survey results, the total position count of licensed practical nurses decreased (from 713 positions), but the number and percentage of open positions increased (from 144 open positions or 20%).<sup>37</sup>

From the responsive surveys, registered nurses had a total position count of 7,282, of which 999 positions were open (14%).<sup>38</sup> Compared to the 2019 survey results, the total position count decreased (from 7,351 positions), but the number and percentage of open positions increased (from 463 open positions or 6%).<sup>39</sup>

While the Healthcare Association of Hawaii report did not include information about all advanced practice registered nurses (the third type of nurse license), the report did include information on advanced practice registered nurses with a nurse practitioner practice specialty.<sup>40</sup> Eighty-five percent of advanced practice registered nurses in Hawaii have a nurse practitioner practice specialty.<sup>41</sup>

From the responsive surveys, nurse practitioners had a total position count of 356, of which 54 were open positions (15%).<sup>42</sup> Compared to the 2019 survey results, the total position count of nurse practitioners increased (from 310 positions) along with the number of open positions (from 47 open positions) but the percentage of open positions remained the same (15%).<sup>43</sup>

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<sup>36</sup> See *id.*

<sup>37</sup> See *id.*

<sup>38</sup> See *id.* at 13.

<sup>39</sup> See *id.*

<sup>40</sup> See *supra* notes 21 and 22. Additionally, as described in the Hawaii Journal of Health & Social Welfare:

NPs [Nurse Practitioners] are advanced practice registered nurses (APRNs) who are licensed, independent practitioners. They provide primary and specialty care in all practice settings, including ambulatory, acute, and long-term care. In Hawai'i, NPs have full scope of practice authority (they assess, diagnose, and treat patients, including prescribing both controlled and uncontrolled drugs). Practicing NPs have more than six years of academic and clinical preparation that includes graduate education, national board certification, and state APRN licensure in their specialty area of NP training. This training prepares NPs to offer a high level of quality care to their patients. (citations omitted)

Laura Reichhardt & Joanne R. Loos, *Spotlight on Nursing Filling the Gap in the Primary Care Shortage: Issues and Solutions for Hawai'i's Healthy Future*, 78 Haw. J. of Health & Social Welfare 11, 349 (2019), [https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC6847999/pdf/hjhs7811\\_0349.pdf](https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC6847999/pdf/hjhs7811_0349.pdf).

<sup>41</sup> See Carrie M. Oliveira, *Statewide Data Tables by License: 2023 Hawai'i Nursing Workforce Supply*, Hawai'i State Center for Nursing (2023), 14, <https://www.hawaii-center-for-nursing.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/09/State-Data-Tables-v.Final-1.pdf#page=11>. Indicating that out of the 1,320 advance practice registered nurses, 970 have a nurse practitioner certification alone and 155 have multiple certifications with one of the certifications being a nurse practitioner certification.  $(970 + 155) / 1,320 = 0.85227$ .

<sup>42</sup> *Supra* note 33, at 20.

<sup>43</sup> *Id.*

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### Hawaii Supply of New Nurses

There appear to be three sources of nurses from which to draw to increase Hawaii's nursing workforce: (1) nurses who permanently relocate to Hawaii for employment, (2) travel nurses temporarily assigned to Hawaii, and (3) new graduates of nursing programs.<sup>44</sup> Given the nationwide nursing shortage and the higher cost of hiring travel nurses, the most sustainable means to address a nursing shortage would appear to be through increasing the number of new graduates of nursing programs.

For the 2021-2022 academic year, there were eight schools of nursing with a physical campus located in Hawaii. The academic degrees that each school offered were as follows:<sup>45</sup>

School Name	Academic Degree Offered					
	Licensed Practical Nurse Certificate (LPN Cert.)	Associate Degree in Nursing (ADN)	Baccalaureate Degree in Nursing (BSN)	Master's Degree in Nursing (MSN)	Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP)	Doctor of Philosophy on Nursing (PhD)
Chaminade University			✓		✓	
Hawaii Community College	✓	✓				
Hawaii Pacific University			✓	✓	✓	
Kapiolani Community College	✓	✓				
Kauai Community College		✓				
University of Hawaii at Hilo			✓		✓	
University of Hawaii at Manoa			✓	✓	✓	✓
University of Hawaii Maui College	✓	✓				

<sup>44</sup> See Carrie M. Oliveira, *Hawaii State Nurse Education Capacity Report, Academic Year 2021-2022*, Hawai'i State Center for Nursing, 15 (2023) <https://www.hawaiiicenterfornursing.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/12/2021-2022-Education-Capacity-Statewide-Report-v.Final-1.pdf#page=17>.

<sup>45</sup> *Id.* at 12.

For the 2021-2022 academic year, the eight schools collectively graduated 483 pre-licensed program graduates, comprised of 32 licensed practical nurses (who then generally would have been expected to obtain a licensed practical nurse license), 139 individuals with an associate degree in nursing (who then generally would have been expected to obtain a registered nurse license), 264 individuals with a baccalaureate degree in nursing (who then generally would have been expected to obtain a registered nurse license<sup>46</sup>), and 48 individuals with a graduate degree in nursing (who then generally would have been expected to obtain an advanced practice registered nurse license).<sup>47</sup>

In addition to the pre-license graduates mentioned in the previous paragraph, the applicable schools of the eight institutions mentioned above collectively graduated 111 post-license graduates (individuals who had previously obtained a nurse license), comprised of 54 registered nurses who previously had an associate degree and graduated from a baccalaureate degree program in nursing,<sup>48</sup> 30 individuals who graduated from a master's degree program in nursing (who then generally would have been expected to obtain an advanced practice registered nurse license), 25 individuals who graduated with a doctor of nursing practice degree, and 2 individuals who graduated with a doctor of philosophy (PhD) in nursing degree.<sup>49</sup>

Unfortunately, these graduates are not sufficient in number to meet the entire demand for new nurses in Hawaii,<sup>50</sup> and nursing schools in Hawaii cannot simply increase enrollment.<sup>51</sup> The most significant issue limiting nursing school educational capacity is an insufficient number of clinical training sites, followed by difficulty filling clinical faculty positions; difficulty filling full-time faculty positions; insufficient funding, faculty, or other resources for program maintenance or development; insufficient number of preceptors for clinical training experiences; insufficient resources (*e.g.*, faculty, facilities, etc.) to provide simulated clinical experiences; and a lack of funding for new teaching faculty or raises.<sup>52</sup>

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<sup>46</sup> A registered nurse license may be obtained following completion of either a two-year associate degree program in nursing or a more rigorous four-year baccalaureate degree program in nursing. Registered nurses who have completed the more rigorous four-year baccalaureate degree program in nursing generally experience increased career and employment opportunities and higher pay compared to registered nurses who have only completed a two-year associate degree program in nursing. *ADN vs BSN: Which is Right for You?*, American Nurses Enterprise, February 9, 2024, <https://www.nursingworld.org/content-hub/resources/becoming-a-nurse/adn-vs-bsn/>.

<sup>47</sup> *See id.* at 16.

<sup>48</sup> *See supra* note 46.

<sup>49</sup> *See id.* at 19.

<sup>50</sup> *See id.* at 8 ("[Nursing schools in Hawaii] are unable to keep pace with the anticipated increase in employment demand for nurses.").

<sup>51</sup> *See* Dean Ontai, *No Room For New Nurses at UH*, Manoa Now (March 5, 2004, updated September 29, 2016), [https://www.manoanow.org/no-room-for-new-nurses-at-uh/article\\_6bb45191-3e4d-5f2a-9af4-963a23fa01a3.html](https://www.manoanow.org/no-room-for-new-nurses-at-uh/article_6bb45191-3e4d-5f2a-9af4-963a23fa01a3.html). ("[A] restricting factor [to increasing nursing school capacity] is the limited number of clinical spaces available in hospitals for students to learn in workplace settings.").

<sup>52</sup> *See* Oliveira, *supra* note 44, at 9 and 24.

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Hawaii's limitation on expanding education capacity can be summarized by a comment from Laura Reichhardt, Director of the Hawaii State Center for Nursing,<sup>53</sup> during a meeting of the Working Group to Study the Feasibility and Impact of the State Adopting the Nurse Licensure Compact Pursuant to the Senate Concurrent Resolution 112, Session Laws Hawai'i 2023:

[I]n terms of our local community, we have far more Hawai'i state residents who have completed all of their pre-nursing requirements, but there are not enough nursing educational spots in our state. We have a problem that we cannot expand our nursing educational programs enough, because we don't have enough faculty and because we don't have enough clinical sites. If we could offer education to all qualified applicants, it is likely that . . . [w]e could meet the nursing workforce demand for nursing graduates. However, you never want 100% of your workforce to be new grads, because a mixture of skill and experience contributes to patient safety. Because we continue to need experienced nurses, and our state has a shortage of nurses based on demand, that requires that we still recruit from out-of-state until we have matched demand with the current workforce plus inflow from new nursing graduates.<sup>54</sup>

## **Hawaii Legislative Efforts**

### ***Hawaii Healthcare Preceptor Tax Credit***

One problem associated with a lack of clinical placement sites is a shortage of nurse preceptors, i.e., individuals currently employed as nurses who train or oversee nursing students in hospitals and other healthcare facilities. In 2018, the Hawaii State Legislature established a healthcare preceptor tax credit to encourage individuals to become preceptors who provide professional instruction, training, and supervision to students and residents seeking careers as primary care physicians and advanced practice registered nurses throughout Hawaii, with the intention of building capacity for clinical education at in-state academic programs that are nationally accredited for the training of primary care physicians, advanced practice registered nurses, and pharmacy professionals.<sup>55</sup> The law allows for a \$1,000 tax credit for each volunteer-based supervised clinical training rotation supervised by the taxpayer, up to a maximum of \$5,000 per taxpayer per taxable year.<sup>56</sup> The law considers 80 hours of supervisory time per year as one rotation.<sup>57</sup> Eligible advanced practice registered nurses, medical doctors, doctors of

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<sup>53</sup> For a discussion of the Hawaii State Center for Nursing, see *infra* notes 61 to 69.

<sup>54</sup> *Report on the Feasibility and Impact of the State Adopting the Nurse Licensure Compact*, University of Hawai'i System Report, 63 (2023), [https://www.hawaii.edu/govrel/docs/reports/2024/scr112-slh2023\\_2024\\_nursing-licensure-compact\\_report.pdf](https://www.hawaii.edu/govrel/docs/reports/2024/scr112-slh2023_2024_nursing-licensure-compact_report.pdf).

<sup>55</sup> See Act 43, 2018 Haw. Sess. Laws 137, [https://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/slh/Years/SLH2018/SLH2018\\_Act43.pdf](https://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/slh/Years/SLH2018/SLH2018_Act43.pdf).

<sup>56</sup> See Haw. Rev. Stat. § 235-110.25 (2023), [https://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/hrscurrent/Vol04\\_Ch0201-0257/HRS0235/HRS\\_0235-0110\\_0002\\_0005.htm](https://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/hrscurrent/Vol04_Ch0201-0257/HRS0235/HRS_0235-0110_0002_0005.htm).

<sup>57</sup> See *id.*

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osteopathy, and registered pharmacists may claim the tax credit. Of the total tax credits claimed, the credits claimed by advanced practice registered nurses were as follows:<sup>58</sup>

Tax Year	Number of Eligible Rotations	Total Credit	Percentage of Tax Credits Allocated to Advanced Practice Registered Nurses per Year
2019	61	\$61,000	16%
2020	62	\$62,000	16%
2021	75	\$75,000	13%
2022	116	\$116,000	18%
2023	155	\$155,000	23%

While the number of advanced practice registered nurses who claimed the tax credit or performed more than one eligible rotation is unclear, the Preceptor Credit Assurance Committee<sup>59</sup> reported that for the 2023 taxable year, it certified a total of tax credit claims from 310 preceptors (which also included medical doctors, doctors of osteopathy, and registered pharmacists) for a total of 676 credits (\$676,000).<sup>60</sup>

<sup>58</sup> See Laura Reichhardt & Kelley Withy, *2023 Summary of Hawaii Preceptor Tax Credit Program*, 4 (2024), [https://preceptortaxcredit.hawaii.edu/wp-content/uploads/2024/06/PCAC-Annual-report-2023-v7\\_clean2\\_FINAL.pdf#page=4](https://preceptortaxcredit.hawaii.edu/wp-content/uploads/2024/06/PCAC-Annual-report-2023-v7_clean2_FINAL.pdf#page=4).

<sup>59</sup> The Preceptor Credit Assurance Committee was established within the Hawaii State Department of Health to develop and implement a plan for certifying healthcare preceptor tax credits. Haw. Rev. Stat. § 321-2.7, [https://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/hrscurrent/Vol06\\_Ch0321-0344/HRS0321/HRS\\_0321-0002\\_0007.htm](https://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/hrscurrent/Vol06_Ch0321-0344/HRS0321/HRS_0321-0002_0007.htm). A separate law also requires the Preceptor Credit Assurance Committee to certify and verify healthcare preceptor tax credit claims. Haw. Rev. Stat. § 235-110.25, [https://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/hrscurrent/Vol04\\_Ch0201-0257/HRS0235/HRS\\_0235-0110\\_0002\\_0005.htm](https://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/hrscurrent/Vol04_Ch0201-0257/HRS0235/HRS_0235-0110_0002_0005.htm). See also Preceptor Credit Assurance Committee, <https://preceptortaxcredit.hawaii.edu/pcac/>.

<sup>60</sup> See *supra* note 58, at l.

Similarly, Colorado, Georgia, Maryland, and South Carolina have tax credit programs for nurse preceptors. See Colo. Rev. Stat. § 39-22-538 (2023), <https://advance.lexis.com/documentpage/?pdmfid=1000516&crd=16dce0f0-b4b6-4b38-94a7-96b1a994e326&nodeid=ABPAACAACAABAAGACE&nopath=%2FROOT%2FABP%2FABPAAC%2FABPAA CAAC%2FABPAACAACAAB%2FABPAACAACAABAAG%2FABPAACAACAABAAGACE&level=6&haschildren=&populated=false&title=39-22-538.+Credit+for+health+care+preceptors+working+in+health+professional+shortage+areas+-+legislative+declaration+-+definitions.&config=014FJAAYNGJkY2Y4Zi1mNjgyLTRkN2YtYmE4OS03NTYzNzYzOTg0OGEKAFBvZENhdGFsb2d592qv2Kywlf8caKqYROP5&pddocfullpath=%2Fshared%2Fdocument%2Fstatutes-legislation%2Furn%3AcontentItem%3A65N7-BV53-GXF6-84MJ-00008-00&comp=6gf59kk&prid=fa8707d6-eb5e-4a12-8080-98a15dd71517>; Ga. Code Ann. § 48-7-29.22 (2023), <https://advance.lexis.com/documentpage/?pdmfid=1000516&crd=de4d11b6-edf4-4349-b97e-922480097c8d&nodeid=ABWAALAADACA&nopath=%2FROOT%2FABW%2FABWAAL%2FABWAALAAD %2FABWAALAADACA&level=4&haschildren=&populated=false&title=48-7-29.22.+%5BREpealed+effective+December+31%2C+2026%5D+Tax+credits+for+certain+medical+preceptor+rotati ons.&config=00JAA1MDBIYzCzZi1IYjFILTQxMTgtYWE3OS02YTgyOGM2NWJIMDYKAFBvZENhdGFsb2fee d0oM9qoQOMCSJFX5qkd&pddocfullpath=%2Fshared%2Fdocument%2Fstatutes-legislation%2Furn%3AcontentItem%3A686X-DV33-GXF6-80RK-00008-00&comp=6gf59kk&prid=1d0efa14-812a-4aa2-adcf-8797b41c03de>; Md. Code Ann., Tax-Gen § 10-739 (2023),



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***Hawaii Center for Nursing***

In 2003, the Legislature established the Center for Nursing to address the inadequate supply of registered nurses in the State.<sup>61</sup> The functions of the Center for Nursing are to:

- (1) Collect and analyze data and prepare and disseminate written reports and recommendations regarding the current and future status and trends of the nursing workforce;
- (2) Conduct research on best practices and quality outcomes;
- (3) Develop a plan for implementing strategies to recruit and retain nurses; and
- (4) Research, analyze, and report data related to the retention of the nursing workforce.<sup>62</sup>

During the 2022-2023 fiscal year, the Center for Nursing conducted nursing workforce research, offered the Evidence-Based Practice and Nursing Professional Development Programs, led the development of plans to recruit and retain nurses, and led other nursing workforce initiatives.<sup>63</sup> Evidence-based practice programs or initiatives included a two-day workshop for nursing school faculty on evidence-based practice in healthcare and educational settings.<sup>64</sup> Following the workshop, the Hawai'i Academic & Clinical Nurse Educator Workgroup was developed to discuss methods to best support nurses in transitioning their evidence-based practice knowledge and skills from academia to practice.<sup>65</sup> The workgroup also focused on developing a strategy to ensure that nursing leadership understood the knowledge and skills that new graduates

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<https://mgaleg.maryland.gov/mgawebsite/laws/StatuteText?article=gtg&section=10-739&enactments=true>; and S.C. Code Ann. § 12-6-3800 (2023), <https://www.scstatehouse.gov/code/t12c006.php>.

Washington State also has the Student Nurse Preceptor program under Wash. Admin. Code § 246-840-533 (2023), <https://apps.leg.wa.gov/WAC/default.aspx?dispo=true&cite=246-840-533>. See also *Student Nurse Preceptor*, Washington State Board of Nursing, <https://nursing.wa.gov/education/student-nurse-preceptor> (last visited Sept. 30, 2024). However, we were unable to locate any data on whether the program has been successful.

Instead of a tax credit, Virginia has a program that makes payments directly to the preceptor. See *Virginia Nurse Preceptor Incentive Program (NPIP) Eligibility Guidelines*, Virginia Department of Health Office of Health Equity (2024), [https://www.vdh.virginia.gov/content/uploads/sites/76/2024/02/Nurse-Preceptor-Guidelines-Updated-2024-Feb\\_-002.pdf](https://www.vdh.virginia.gov/content/uploads/sites/76/2024/02/Nurse-Preceptor-Guidelines-Updated-2024-Feb_-002.pdf).

<sup>61</sup> See Act 198, 2003 Haw. Sess. Laws 451, [https://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/slh/Years/SLH2003/SLH2003\\_Act198.pdf](https://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/slh/Years/SLH2003/SLH2003_Act198.pdf), codified as Haw. Rev. Stat. § 304-1404 (2023), et seq., [https://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/hrscurrent/Vol05\\_Ch0261-0319/HRS0304A/HRS\\_0304A-1404.htm](https://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/hrscurrent/Vol05_Ch0261-0319/HRS0304A/HRS_0304A-1404.htm).

<sup>62</sup> See Haw. Rev. Stat. § 304-1406 (2023), [https://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/hrscurrent/Vol05\\_Ch0261-0319/HRS0304A/HRS\\_0304A-1406.htm](https://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/hrscurrent/Vol05_Ch0261-0319/HRS0304A/HRS_0304A-1406.htm).

<sup>63</sup> Additional information about the functions, activities, and accomplishments of the Center for Nursing, including efforts to address the nursing workforce shortage, are available in the *Hawaii State Center for Nursing FY 2022-2023 Annual Report*, Hawaii State Center For Nursing (2023), [https://www.hawaiiicenterfornursing.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/03/HSCFN-Web-Updated\\_03252024.pdf](https://www.hawaiiicenterfornursing.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/03/HSCFN-Web-Updated_03252024.pdf).

<sup>64</sup> See *id.* at 12.

<sup>65</sup> See *id.*

have when entering the workforce.<sup>66</sup> Nursing professional development programs or initiatives included offering continuing education for nurses on the following subjects:

- (1) Nurse wellbeing;
- (2) Recruitment and retention in long-term care;
- (3) Trends in oncology care;
- (4) Suicide prevention;
- (5) Strategies to support youth mental health; and
- (6) New graduate nursing workforce in Hawaii.<sup>67</sup>

Additionally, the Hawaii State Center for Nursing leads the coordination of the Hawaii Clinical Placement Collaborative, a program to maximize the matching of nursing school students with hospitals offering suitable clinical placements.<sup>68</sup> The Hawaii Clinical Placement Collaborative uses the Centralized Clinical Placement System, the same software designed to ease California's nursing shortage.<sup>69</sup>

### ***Hawaii Nursing Scholars Program***

In 2005, the Legislature established the Nursing Scholars Program to award scholarship grants to eligible nursing students who agree to teach nursing in Hawaii after graduation.<sup>70</sup> The program has reported awarding only two scholarships of \$8,928 each.<sup>71</sup> It appears that both scholarship recipients continued to teach nursing for many years following their graduation. After the 2017 repeal of the reporting requirement,<sup>72</sup> the University of Hawaii has not published

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<sup>66</sup> See *id.*

<sup>67</sup> See *id.* at 13-15.

<sup>68</sup> See The Hawaii Clinical Placement Collaborative, <https://hawaiihcpc.com/about/> (last visited Sept. 30, 2024).

<sup>69</sup> See *id.*

<sup>70</sup> See Haw. Rev. Stat. § 304A-3302(d)(5)(B) (2023), [https://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/hrscurrent/Vol05\\_Ch0261-0319/HRS0304A/HRS\\_0304A-3302.htm](https://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/hrscurrent/Vol05_Ch0261-0319/HRS0304A/HRS_0304A-3302.htm). See generally, Act 116, 2005 Haw. Sess. Laws 305, [https://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/slh/Years/SLH2005/SLH2005\\_Act116.pdf](https://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/slh/Years/SLH2005/SLH2005_Act116.pdf), codified as Haw. Rev. Stat. § 304A-3301, et. seq., [https://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/hrscurrent/Vol05\\_Ch0261-0319/HRS0304A/HRS\\_0304A-3301.htm](https://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/hrscurrent/Vol05_Ch0261-0319/HRS0304A/HRS_0304A-3301.htm).

<sup>71</sup> See *Annual Report on Nursing Scholars Program*, University of Hawaii System (2008), <https://library.lrb.hawaii.gov/cgi-bin/koha/opac-retrieve-file.pl?id=bb188eff07a0899abbe63f588a8db8a>.

<sup>72</sup> See Act 14, section 3, 2017 Haw. Sess. Laws 58,

[https://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/slh/Years/SLH2017/SLH2017\\_Act14.pdf](https://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/slh/Years/SLH2017/SLH2017_Act14.pdf). Among other things, Act 14 repealed Haw. Rev. Stat. § 304A-3305 (2016), which stated "The University of Hawaii shall publish a report by September 1, 2006, and every year thereafter. The report shall include information regarding the operation of the program, including: (1) The total number of students receiving nursing scholarship grants; . . ." Testimony in support of the repeal by the University of Hawaii System stated, "The School of Nursing and Dental Hygiene has had no additional information to provide since the last report submitted in 2009 and thereby feels this reporting requirement to be obsolete." Hearing on House Bill No. 850, H.D. 2 (Haw. 2017), before the Senate Committee on Ways and Means, March 29, 2017, written testimony by the University of Hawaii System,



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subsequent public reports on the program. The last report issued in 2016 states that, "[s]ince being enacted in 2005, the Nursing Scholars Program only received one year of funding in 2006. The School of Nursing and Dental Hygiene has no additional information to report since the 2009 report."<sup>73</sup>

### ***Recent Efforts to Increase Nursing School Capacity***

Act 74, Session Laws of Hawaii 2023<sup>74</sup> increased from ten students to thirty students annually, the enrollment of the Certified Nurse Aide to Practical Nurse Bridge Program at the University of Hawaii Maui College,<sup>75</sup> a program to educate and train certified nurse aids to become licensed practical nurses. In 2024, the Legislature appropriated additional funds to expand the program from 30 to 50 students.<sup>76</sup>

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[https://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/sessions/Session2017/Testimony/HB850\\_HD2\\_TESTIMONY\\_WAM\\_03-29-17\\_.PDF](https://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/sessions/Session2017/Testimony/HB850_HD2_TESTIMONY_WAM_03-29-17_.PDF).

<sup>73</sup> *Annual Report on Nursing Scholars Program HRS 304A-3305 (Act 116, SLH 2005)*, University of Hawaii System (2016), <https://library.lrb.hawaii.gov/cgi-bin/koha/opac-retrieve-file.pl?id=22d10c23590021e79617a67551bce8ee>. Annual reports for 2005 to 2015 are available at <https://library.lrb.hawaii.gov/cgi-bin/koha/opac-detail.pl?biblionumber=34809>.

Like Hawaii's Nursing Scholars Program, the Illinois Nurse Educator Scholarship Program awards scholarships to students who commit to teaching. See 110 Ill. Com. Stat. 967/15-5 et. seq., <https://www.ilga.gov/legislation/ilcs/ilcs4.asp?DocName=011009670HArt%2E+15&ActID=2813&ChapterID=18&SeqStart=1100000&SeqEnd=1800000>. Similarly, the Texas Nursing Faculty Loan Repayment Assistance Program, Maryland Nurse Support Program II, and New York Nursing Faculty Loan Forgiveness Incentive Program provide loan forgiveness and other incentives for individuals with a nursing degree who teach. See 19 Tex. Admin. Code § 23.186 et. seq. (2023),

[https://texreg.sos.state.tx.us/public/readtac\\$ext.TacPage?sl=R&app=9&p\\_dir=&p\\_rloc=&p\\_tloc=&p\\_ploc=&pg=1&p\\_tac=&ti=19&pt=1&ch=23&rl=186](https://texreg.sos.state.tx.us/public/readtac$ext.TacPage?sl=R&app=9&p_dir=&p_rloc=&p_tloc=&p_ploc=&pg=1&p_tac=&ti=19&pt=1&ch=23&rl=186); *About Nurse Support Program II (NSP II)*, The Maryland Nurse Support Program (2024), <https://nursesupport.maryland.gov/Pages/about-nsp-ii.aspx>; and *NYS Nursing Faculty Loan Forgiveness (NFLF) Incentive Program*, Higher Education Services Corporation (2024), <https://www.hesc.ny.gov/find-aid-you-need/new-york-state-loan-forgiveness-programs/nys-nursing-faculty-loan-forgiveness/>.

<sup>74</sup> See Act 74, 2023 Haw. Sess. Laws 174, [https://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/slh/Years/SLH2023/SLH2023\\_Act74.pdf](https://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/slh/Years/SLH2023/SLH2023_Act74.pdf)

<sup>75</sup> See Report to the Thirty-Third Legislature State of Hawai'i 2024, Pursuant to Section 321-1.5, Hawai'i Revised Statutes, Requiring the Department of Health to Submit an Annual Report on Recommended Primary Health Care Incentives, Strategies, And Implementation, State of Hawai'i Department of Health Health Resources Administration Family Health Services Division (2023), [https://health.hawaii.gov/oppdp/files/2024/03/15\\_2024-Primary-Care-Office-Legislative-Report.pdf](https://health.hawaii.gov/oppdp/files/2024/03/15_2024-Primary-Care-Office-Legislative-Report.pdf). Other annual reports are available at <https://library.lrb.hawaii.gov/cgi-bin/koha/opac-detail.pl?biblionumber=29894>.

<sup>76</sup> See Act 89, §§ 6 and 7, 2024 Haw. Sess. Laws 221, [https://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/sessions/session2024/bills/GM1190\\_.PDF](https://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/sessions/session2024/bills/GM1190_.PDF).

### ***Hawaii Health Corps Program and Related Loan Repayment Programs***

In 2012, the Legislature established the Hawaii Health Corps Program<sup>77</sup> to encourage nurse practitioners and other individuals to serve in areas with a shortage of healthcare providers.<sup>78</sup> As part of that program, the Legislature also established the Hawaii Rural Health Care Provider Loan Repayment Program to provide loan repayments to eligible nurse practitioners and other health care providers who agree to serve five consecutive years in a county having a shortage of health care providers.<sup>79</sup> The program is administered by the University of Hawaii John A. Burns School of Medicine and the University of Hawaii at Manoa School of Nursing and Dental Hygiene<sup>80</sup> and does not have a reporting requirement. The University of Hawaii has not issued any reports on the program. However, according to information provided by the University of Hawaii John A. Burns School of Medicine, the Hawaii Rural Health Care Provider Loan Repayment Program has never received any funding.<sup>81</sup>

Hawaii also has loan repayment programs that are not statutorily created. The Hawaii State Loan Repayment Program was established by the State of Hawaii in 2012<sup>82</sup> and is funded by a federal grant.<sup>83</sup> Participants include nurse practitioners, registered nurses, dentists, and physicians,<sup>84</sup> but not licensed nurse practitioners since participants in this program are required to have completed training in an accredited graduate training program.<sup>85</sup> Participants must agree to work for two years at a site that provides discounts for low-income individuals, among other requirements.<sup>86</sup> According to information provided by the University of Hawaii John A. Burns, the Hawaii State Loan Repayment Program is currently funding loan repayments for twenty-six registered nurses for about \$530,000 per year total and seven advanced practice registered nurses for about \$200,000 per year total.<sup>87</sup>

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<sup>77</sup> See Act 187, 2012 Haw. Sess. Laws 697,

[https://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/slh/Years/SLH2012/SLH2012\\_Act187.pdf](https://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/slh/Years/SLH2012/SLH2012_Act187.pdf).

<sup>78</sup> See Haw. Rev. Stat. § 309H-2 (2023), [https://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/hrscurrent/Vol05\\_Ch0261-0319/HRS0309H/HRS\\_0309H-0002.htm](https://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/hrscurrent/Vol05_Ch0261-0319/HRS0309H/HRS_0309H-0002.htm).

<sup>79</sup> See Haw. Rev. Stat. § 309H-3 (2023), [https://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/hrscurrent/Vol05\\_Ch0261-0319/HRS0309H/HRS\\_0309H-0003.htm](https://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/hrscurrent/Vol05_Ch0261-0319/HRS0309H/HRS_0309H-0003.htm).

<sup>80</sup> See Haw. Rev. Stat. § 309H-2 (2023).

<sup>81</sup> E-mail from Kelly W. Withy, Dir. Hawaii/Pacific Basin Area Health Education Center, University of Hawaii John A. Burns School of Medicine, to Devin Choy, Research Attorney, Legislative Reference Bureau (Dec. 9, 2024, 12:32 PST) (on file with author).

<sup>82</sup> See *Grants to States for Loan Repayment*, TAGGS,

[https://taggs.hhs.gov/Detail/AwardDetail?arg\\_AwardNum=H5646787&arg\\_ProgOfficeCode=71](https://taggs.hhs.gov/Detail/AwardDetail?arg_AwardNum=H5646787&arg_ProgOfficeCode=71) (last visited Dec. 9, 2024), click "View Award Abstract" ("The Hawaii State Loan Repayment Program was established in 2012").

<sup>83</sup> "The Hawaii State Loan Repayment Program (HSLRP) is funded by a federal grant to pay off educational loans for primary care and behavioral health providers who care for patients at non-profit organizations in designated Health Professional Shortage Areas of Hawaii.", See Hawaii State Loan Repayment Program, <https://ahec.hawaii.edu/ahecsite-forhealthcareprofessionals/ahecsite-loanrepayment/ahecsite-hawaiistateloanrepayment.html> (last visited Dec. 10, 2024).

<sup>84</sup> See *id.*

<sup>85</sup> See *id.*

<sup>86</sup> See *id.*

<sup>87</sup> See *supra* note 81.

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Additionally, the Hawaii Executive branch and the Healthcare Association of Hawaii established the Hawaii Health Education Loan Repayment Program (known as HELP) in 2023.<sup>88</sup> The program was initially funded by a \$30,000,000 appropriation that year.<sup>89</sup> Participants in the Hawaii Health Education Loan Repayment Program must agree to provide clinical care and at least 30% of the participant's patient care claims must be from public insurance.<sup>90</sup> According to information provided by the University of Hawaii John A. Burns School of Medicine, the Hawaii Health Education Loan Repayment Program is funding loan repayments for ninety advanced practice registered nurses for about \$3,570,000 per year total and ninety-six registered nurses for about \$1,860,000 per year total.<sup>91</sup>

### ***Expediting the Process for Out-of-State Nurse Employment***

In recent years, the Legislature has taken steps to expedite the process for out-of-state nurses to work in Hawaii. As discussed below, these improvements include expanding the eligibility of the temporary permits to work as a nurse, requiring that temporary permits be issued within ten days, expanding the temporary permit duration, and exempting nurses traveling to accompany patients who are temporarily in Hawaii.

Generally, employment as a nurse in Hawaii requires a license issued by the Board of Nursing.<sup>92</sup> However, an individual may temporarily practice as a licensed practical nurse or registered nurse under a temporary permit, also issued by the Board of Nursing. Until mid-2022, the issuance of temporary permits was limited to nurses licensed in another state, which excluded

<sup>88</sup> See Gov. Green Announces \$30M in Loan Repayment for Healthcare Professionals Who Serve Hawai'i, September 9, 2023, <https://governor.hawaii.gov/featured/office-of-the-governor-news-release-gov-green-announces-30m-in-loan-repayment-for-healthcare-professionals-who-serve-hawaii/> (last visited Dec. 10, 2024).

<sup>89</sup> It appears that the funding for the Hawaii Health Education Loan Repayment Program was originally intended to supplement the federal funding for the Hawaii State Loan Repayment Program. The budget worksheets for House Bill 382, HD 1 SD3, CD1 (2023) (which later became Act 164, 2023 Haw. Sess. Laws 499) state "HAWAII STATE LOAN REPAYMENT PROGRAM (FY24: 10,000,000; FY25: 20,000,000)" and "HAWAII STATE LOAN REPAYMENT PROGRAM (FY24: 10,000,000; FY25: 20,000,000)", Legislative Budget System Budget Comparison Worksheet, 589, <https://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/sessions/session2023/worksheets/HB300%20HD1%20SD1%20CD1%20Worksheets.pdf#page=589>. However, it seems that instead of allocating the \$30,000,000 for the Hawaii State Loan Repayment Program, the Executive branch and the Healthcare Association of Hawaii created the Hawaii Health Education Loan Repayment Program. See *supra* note 88. ("HELP builds on the decade-old, federally funded Hawai'i State Loan Repayment Program by reaching a larger group of healthcare professionals.")

<sup>90</sup> See *Healthcare Education Loan Repayment Program*, John A. Burns School of Medicine, <https://ahec.hawaii.edu/ahecsite-forhealthcareprofessionals/loan-repayment-help.html> (last visited Dec. 9, 2024). "Public insurance" means Medicare Fee-For-Service, Medicare Advantage, Medicaid Fee-For-Service, QUEST Integration (Med-QUEST), Veterans Administration, and TRICARE. *Id.* Similar or related loan payment or loan forgiveness programs in other jurisdictions for nurses who work in an area with a shortage of medical care include the Nurses Across New York Loan Repayment Program (officially the Nurse Loan Repayment Program) and the Iowa Mental Health Professional Loan Repayment Program. See N.Y. Pub. Health Law § 2807-AA (2023), <https://www.nysenate.gov/legislation/laws/PBH/2807-AA>, and Iowa Code § 256.225 (2023), <https://www.legis.iowa.gov/docs/code/256.225.pdf>.

<sup>91</sup> See *supra* note 81.

<sup>92</sup> See *supra* notes 2 to 22.

nurses licensed in a territory of the United States or a foreign country.<sup>93</sup> This forced individuals licensed as a licensed practical nurse or registered nurse in a territory of the United States or a foreign country to wait for licensure from the Board of Nursing before beginning employment as a nurse in Hawaii, a process that typically takes 45-60 working days (up to 90 calendar days).<sup>94</sup> In 2022, the Legislature broadened the scope of temporary permits to include licensed practical nurses and registered nurses licensed in a territory of the United States or foreign country,<sup>95</sup> which allowed those individuals to begin their employment in Hawaii sooner.

During the 2024 legislative session, the Legislature again expanded the temporary permit process to include licensed practical nurses and registered nurses who hold a multistate license, instead of nurses who only hold a license in a particular state, territory, or county.<sup>96</sup> The Legislature also required that temporary permits be issued within ten days of application<sup>97</sup> and increased the maximum duration of temporary permits from three months<sup>98</sup> to six months.<sup>99</sup> Additionally, the Legislature established a Hawaii nursing license exemption for nurses licensed in another state, a territory, or another country who accompany patients visiting Hawaii for less than two weeks.<sup>100</sup>

Additionally, beginning July 1, 2025, the maximum duration of a temporary permit will increase from six months to one year, and the license application process for out-of-state licensed practical nurses and registered nurses will be further streamlined by allowing those individuals to submit a single application for both a temporary permit and appropriate nurse license.<sup>101</sup>

Public testimony expressed support for the 2024 changes made by the Legislature. One testifier stated that "[t]he temporary permit process is instrumental for recruiting nurses from outside of Hawai'i as well as bringing in travel nurses to maintain 24/7 care in the state at a time in which Hawai'i is short of the number of nurses needed."<sup>102</sup> Other submissions of written testimony commented on the reduction in wait time between the submission of an application for

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<sup>93</sup> See Act 203, 2022 Haw. Sess. Laws 457, [https://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/slh/Years/SLH2022/SLH2022\\_Act203.pdf](https://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/slh/Years/SLH2022/SLH2022_Act203.pdf). See also 2021 versions of Haw. Rev. Stat. §§ 457-7(b)(2) and 457-8(b)(2) (2021), [https://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/hrsarchive/hrs2021/Vol10\\_Ch0436-0474/HRS0457/HRS\\_0457-0007.htm](https://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/hrsarchive/hrs2021/Vol10_Ch0436-0474/HRS0457/HRS_0457-0007.htm) and [https://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/hrsarchive/hrs2021/Vol10\\_Ch0436-0474/HRS0457/HRS\\_0457-0008.htm](https://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/hrsarchive/hrs2021/Vol10_Ch0436-0474/HRS0457/HRS_0457-0008.htm) (which both state "[p]ending verification of a valid, unencumbered license from another state, a temporary permit may be issued for employment with a Hawaii employer" (emphasis added)).

<sup>94</sup> See Hearing on Senate Bill No. 63, S.D. 2, H.D. 2 (Haw. 2024), before the House Committee on Finance, March 30, 2024, written testimony by Hawaii State Center for Nursing, [https://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/sessions/session2023/Testimony/SB63\\_HD2\\_TESTIMONY\\_FIN\\_03-30-23\\_PDF#page=6](https://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/sessions/session2023/Testimony/SB63_HD2_TESTIMONY_FIN_03-30-23_PDF#page=6).

<sup>95</sup> See Act 203, *supra* note 93.

<sup>96</sup> See Act 95, 2024 Haw. Sess. Laws 246, [https://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/sessions/session2024/bills/GM1196\\_PDF](https://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/sessions/session2024/bills/GM1196_PDF).

<sup>97</sup> See *id.*

<sup>98</sup> See Haw. Code. R. § 16-89-22 (2018).

<sup>99</sup> See *supra* note 96.

<sup>100</sup> See *id.*

<sup>101</sup> See *supra* note 96.

<sup>102</sup> See *supra* note 94.

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a temporary permit and the issuance of the permit, which would allow nurses licensed outside of Hawaii to begin their employment sooner.<sup>103</sup>

### *Nurse Licensure Compact*

In 2023, the Legislature adopted a concurrent resolution<sup>104</sup> requesting the Hawaii State Center for Nursing<sup>105</sup> to convene a working group to study the feasibility of Hawaii adopting the Nurse Licensure Compact. The Nurse Licensure Compact is an agreement among states to allow nurses licensed in one state and who meet uniform license requirements<sup>106</sup> to practice in another compact state without obtaining an additional license.<sup>107</sup> Forty-two states or territories have enacted the Nurse Licensure Compact.<sup>108</sup>

The working group published its report in December 2023.<sup>109</sup> The report stated that the "working group could not conclude if the [Nurse Licensure Compact] will resolve the state's current nursing workforce shortages"<sup>110</sup> and "[t]here is no conclusive data that describes increases in the nursing workforce due to the [Nurse Licensure Compact], but rather that it facilitates states' access to a larger pool of nurses."<sup>111</sup> The report further noted that the "data do suggest that there would be some risk of losing nurses to out-of-state practice."<sup>112</sup> Also, the report states that in one of the working group meetings, it was pointed out that "[i]t is not the intention of the [Nurse Licensure Compact] to resolve nursing workforce shortages. Rather it was designed to remove licensing as a barrier to employment for nurses who already intend to work in another jurisdiction."<sup>113</sup>

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<sup>103</sup> See Hearing on Senate Bill No. 63, S.D. 2, H.D. 2 (Haw. 2024), before the House Committee on Finance, March 30, 2024, written testimony by Hawaii Pacific Health, [https://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/sessions/session2023/Testimony/SB63\\_HD2\\_TESTIMONY\\_FIN\\_03-30-23\\_PDF#page=16](https://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/sessions/session2023/Testimony/SB63_HD2_TESTIMONY_FIN_03-30-23_PDF#page=16).

<sup>104</sup> See S. Con. Res. 112 (Haw. 2023), [https://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/sessions/session2023/bills/SCR112\\_.pdf](https://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/sessions/session2023/bills/SCR112_.pdf).

<sup>105</sup> See *supra* note 61.

<sup>106</sup> See *Uniform Licensure Requirements for a Multistate License*, NCSBN (2024), [https://www.nursecompact.com/files/2023\\_NLC\\_ULRs.pdf](https://www.nursecompact.com/files/2023_NLC_ULRs.pdf).

<sup>107</sup> See, e.g., House Bill No. 2415, H.D. 2, S.D. 2 (Haw. 2024), [https://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/sessions/session2024/bills/HB2415\\_SD2\\_.htm](https://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/sessions/session2024/bills/HB2415_SD2_.htm).

<sup>108</sup> See *42 states have enacted the NLC*, NLC Nurse Licensure Compact, [https://www.nursecompact.com/files/NLC\\_Map.pdf](https://www.nursecompact.com/files/NLC_Map.pdf). While the title of the document appears to solely address states, the map and information indicate that the count of forty-two consists of forty states, Guam, and the Virgin Islands of the United States.

<sup>109</sup> See *supra* note 54. The report was published as a "University of Hawaii System Report." It appears that since S. Con. Res. 112 (Haw. 2023) requested the Hawaii State Center for Nursing (which is a part of the University of Hawaii at Manoa, Nancy Atmospera-Walch School of Nursing) to convene the working group, the Hawaii State Center for Nursing was the primary author and therefore published the report in its capacity as an entity of the University of Hawaii System.

<sup>110</sup> See *id.* at vi.

<sup>111</sup> *Id.*

<sup>112</sup> *Id.* at 56.

<sup>113</sup> *Id.* at 55.

The Working Group did not specifically recommend to the Legislature whether or not Hawaii should adopt the Nurse Licensure Compact. However, the group made numerous recommendations for improvement if the Nurse Licensure Compact were to be adopted.<sup>114</sup>

The Working Group also made recommendations seemingly unrelated to the Nurse Licensure Compact that would help to address Hawaii's nursing shortage if adopted:

- "Supporting public and private nursing education expansion enables local residents to become nurses in Hawaii, which will increase the local workforce and improve local recruitment opportunities."<sup>115</sup>
- "[Since the h]igh cost of living and housing shortages further challenge nursing retention[, c]ontinued efforts to impact these issues will have benefits to the nursing workforce retention."<sup>116</sup>

The 2024 Legislature did not adopt any House or Senate Bill enacting the Nurse Licensure Compact.

## Efforts in Other States to Address Nursing Workforce Shortages

This section discusses the various legislative efforts in other states to address nurse workforce shortages for which a subsequent report or other document indicated that the workforce grew following the effort or the effort helped people obtain a nursing degree. For information about proposed legislative initiatives in other states and efforts that may have been successful but for which the Bureau is not aware of an assessment or follow-up report evaluating that success, a reader may wish to review the Evaluation of the [Texas] Nursing Shortage Reduction Program, Appendix C.<sup>117</sup> Appendix C was prepared by staff of the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board and summarizes legislative efforts made in states other than Texas to address shortages of initial licensure nurses, categorized by the following subjects: didactic faculty (faculty primarily focused on teaching), clinical faculty/preceptors and training sites, students, educational pathways and partnerships, workforce planning, and evaluation and investment. Additionally, Appendix D of the same document summarizes state funding strategy proposals for the efforts in Appendix C along with providing some commentary.<sup>118</sup>

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<sup>114</sup> Some recommendations included making conforming amendments to Hawaii law, preventing the Nurse Licensure Compact from superseding existing state labor laws, implementing a delayed effective date, developing a funding method, addressing whether continuing competency for nurses would be required for practice in Hawaii, development of a method to address any delays in nurse investigations due to expansion of the registry of nurses, and allowing the Hawaii State Center for Nursing to retain nursing workforce research duties. *See id.* at viii-ix.

<sup>115</sup> *Id.* at ix.

<sup>116</sup> *Id.* The Working Group's recommendations appeared under the subject heading "Priorities, not related to the [Nurse Licensure Compact]."

<sup>117</sup> *See infra* note 157.

<sup>118</sup> *See id.*



## **Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services Graduate Nurse Education Demonstration**

The Affordable Care Act of 2010 established the temporary Graduate Nurse Education (GNE) Demonstration to test whether payments to hospitals and other healthcare entities to provide clinical education would increase the number of advanced practice registered nurse student graduates.<sup>119</sup> The Affordable Care Act appropriated \$50,000,000 per fiscal year, for fiscal years 2012 to 2015, with the authority to expend appropriated funds in subsequent years.<sup>120</sup> The demonstration selected five lead hospitals, one in each of the following states: North Carolina, Pennsylvania, Texas, Illinois, and Arizona.<sup>121</sup> The five lead hospitals then partnered with schools of nursing, other hospitals, and other healthcare entities to form networks for the program.<sup>122</sup>

Each lead hospital administered the project for its respective network, including distributing payments. Payments by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services were based on the number of additional students educated due to participating in the program and covered "reasonable costs attributable to providing qualified clinical education to [advanced practice registered nurse] students enrolled as a result of the demonstration project[.]"<sup>123</sup> such as:

- Salaries for staff in lead hospitals to administer the project;
- Costs incurred by schools of nursing for materials, salaries for non-didactic (i.e., administrative or clinical) faculty, and coordination of clinical preceptorships for additional advanced practice registered nurse students that the hospitals and their partnering entities educated as a result of their participation in the project;<sup>124</sup>
- Costs associated with executing partnership agreements with clinical education sites;<sup>125</sup> and
- Precepting payments for the clinical education of additional advanced practice registered nurse students.<sup>126</sup>
- Payments to the clinical education sites, which then decided how to disburse those payments.<sup>127</sup> The clinical education sites disbursed the funds by providing bonuses

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<sup>119</sup> See Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, Pub. L. No. 111-148, § 5509, 124 Stat. 119, 674-676 (2010), <https://www.congress.gov/111/plaws/publ148/PLAW-111publ148.pdf#page=556>.

<sup>120</sup> See *id.* at § 5509(d), 124 Stat. at 675.

<sup>121</sup> See Brandon Hesgrove et al., *The Graduate Nurse Education Demonstration Project: Final Evaluation Report*, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, Center for Medicare and Medicaid Innovation 4 (2019), <https://www.cms.gov/priorities/innovation/files/reports/gne-final-eval-rpt.pdf>.

<sup>122</sup> See *id.* at 12.

<sup>123</sup> *Id.* at 16.

<sup>124</sup> See *id.* at 16-17.

<sup>125</sup> See *id.*

<sup>126</sup> See *id.*

<sup>127</sup> See *id.* at 38.

to staff, subsidizing staff education through conferences and training, and giving a portion of the precepting payment directly to the preceptor as a bonus.<sup>128</sup> In a few instances, preceptors declined the payments and asked that the funds be used to support patient care.<sup>129</sup>

The demonstration began before the 2012-2013 academic year and closed out during the 2018-2019 academic year.<sup>130</sup>

According to the final report, the project resulted in an overall increase in the number of advanced practice registered nurse graduates.<sup>131</sup> The demonstration project increased clinical placements, which saw a corresponding increase in enrollment for participating schools of nursing.<sup>132</sup> The total cost of the demonstration project was \$176,377,494 and increased the total number of advanced practice registered nurse graduates by an estimated 3,739. The total estimated cost per advanced practice registered nurse graduate was \$47,172.<sup>133</sup>

The evaluation process of the Graduate Nurse Education Demonstration Project included, among other things, conducting interviews and focus groups, issuing surveys, and analyzing survey responses and other data.<sup>134</sup> Discussions with preceptors included asking if the availability of payments would affect their willingness to provide clinical education, and many preceptors reported that they were not motivated by payments.<sup>135</sup> Rather, preceptors were motivated by a willingness to give back to the profession, teach the next generation of advanced practice registered nurses, and continue their own education.<sup>136</sup> Conversely, representatives for the clinical education sites were highly motivated by the payments.<sup>137</sup> Since precepting typically reduces a preceptor's productivity,<sup>138</sup> many clinical education sites participating in the Graduate Nurse Education Demonstration Project used the precepting payment to compensate for this loss in productivity,<sup>139</sup>

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<sup>128</sup> *See id.*

<sup>129</sup> *See id.*

<sup>130</sup> *See id.* at 23.

<sup>131</sup> *See id.* at 79.

<sup>132</sup> *See id.* at 7-8.

<sup>133</sup> *See id.* at 79.

<sup>134</sup> *See id.* at 5.

<sup>135</sup> *See id.* at 56. The report did not include information on the payment or bonus amounts. *See also supra* note 128.

<sup>136</sup> *See id.* at 56-57.

<sup>137</sup> *See id.* at 57.

<sup>138</sup> "[M]any preceptors in health care facilities have difficulties due to their excessive workload, because they have to train new nurses and attend to patients at the same time." Kyung Jin Hong & Hyo-Jeong Yoon, *Effect of Nurses' Preceptorship Experience in Educating New Graduate Nurses and Preceptor Training Courses on Clinical Teaching Behavior*, 18(3) *Int'l J. Env't Rsch. Pub. Health* 975 (2021), <https://doi.org/10.3390/ijerph18030975>.

<sup>139</sup> *See supra* note 121 at 57. The report states:

In contrast, other stakeholders agreed that the clinical education sites, not individual preceptors, were driven by precepting payments. The sites used the precepting payments to offset the negative impact that precepting APRN students had on the site's productivity level. Preceptors we spoke with noted that by taking on an APRN student, their productivity decreased. Sites also noticed a decrease in their staff's productivity due to precepting APRN and physician students. To offset this productivity loss, many sites used the precepting payments as compensation for the preceptor's time. This allowed the site to take on more students without affecting the quality of care or their financial bottom line. Sites also ultimately decided if and how many of their staff would precept students each semester. Because of the time and resources needed to educate



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presumably by scheduling additional staff, though the report does not provide specific information on how clinical education sites compensated for the loss in productivity.

### **Song-Brown Health Care Workforce Training Program (California)<sup>140</sup>**

In 1973, California established the then-entitled Song-Brown Family Physician Training program to train physicians to provide high-quality primary care.<sup>141</sup> The scope of the program expanded over the years, and registered nurse programs were added in 2005.<sup>142</sup> Currently, the Song-Brown Health Care Workforce Training program ("Song-Brown program") encompasses programs for primary care residency, family nurse practitioners, physician assistants, registered nurses, and midwifery, with the goal "to increase the number of students and residents receiving quality primary care education and training in areas of unmet need throughout California."<sup>143</sup> State funding totaled \$27,400,000 for the 2023-2024 fiscal year.<sup>144</sup>

Among other things, the Song-Brown program provides grants to California programs that train registered nurses.<sup>145</sup> Grant amounts are \$15,000 per student per year for a two-year service period with a maximum of thirty students per program that trains registered nurses.<sup>146</sup> The maximum annual reward per program that trains registered nurses is \$900,000 (\$15,000 per student-year x 30 students x 2 years = \$900,000).<sup>147</sup>

Separately, to encourage registered nurse training programs to expand their training capacity, the Song-Brown program also provides grants of \$30,000 to registered nurse training programs that permanently expand their training capacity by an additional student slot and fill that slot.<sup>148</sup> The \$30,000 grant has a ten-student slot maximum with a total maximum award of \$600,000 per registered nurse training program.<sup>149</sup>

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students clinically in professional health care programs, sites were more inclined to accept students whose schools paid for them to precept.

<sup>140</sup> Cal. Health & Safety Code § 128200 et seq. (2023), [https://leginfo.ca.gov/faces/codes\\_displayText.xhtml?lawCode=HSC&division=107.&title=&part=3.&chapter=4.&article=1](https://leginfo.ca.gov/faces/codes_displayText.xhtml?lawCode=HSC&division=107.&title=&part=3.&chapter=4.&article=1).

<sup>141</sup> See *Graduate Medical Education Funding in California The Song-Brown Program*, California Health Care Foundation (2019), <https://www.chcf.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/02/GMEFundingCASongBrown.pdf>.

<sup>142</sup> See *id.*

<sup>143</sup> *Id.*

<sup>144</sup> See *Song-Brown Registered Nurse Education Program, Grant Guide For Fiscal year 2023-2024*, Department of Health Care Access and Information, 4, <https://hcai.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/2023/10/2023-24-RN-Grant-Guide.pdf>.

<sup>145</sup> See *id.* at 3.

<sup>146</sup> See *id.* at 4.

<sup>147</sup> See *id.*

<sup>148</sup> See *id.*

<sup>149</sup> See *id.*

The program supported 385 registered nurse training slots for 2019-2021 (the latest period for which publicly accessible data is available).<sup>150</sup> According to the Program Director for one university, "[a]ll of the student recipients are from underrepresented groups and would struggle to continue their education without the Song-Brown assistance."<sup>151</sup>

### **The Professional Nursing Shortage Reduction Program (Texas)**

In 2001, Texas established the Professional Nursing Shortage Reduction Program by adopting the Nursing Shortage Reduction Act of 2001.<sup>152</sup> Section 2(b) of the Nursing Shortage Reduction Act of 2001 stated the purpose of the Act as follows:

It is the purpose of this Act to establish a program to increase the ability of professional nursing educational programs to prepare the registered nurses Texas needs [sic], to encourage persons to enter the nursing profession or to teach in a nursing program, and to establish a nursing workforce data center to address issues of supply and demand in nursing.<sup>153</sup>

While the requirements of the Professional Nursing Shortage Reduction Program have been refined throughout the years, the general framework involves awarding grants to public and private college and university nursing schools to increase their number of nurse graduates.<sup>154</sup>

Grant money may only be used for enrolling additional nursing students, nursing faculty enhancement, encouraging innovation in the recruitment and retention of students, effectively using resources, sharing resources between programs, and using preceptors or part-time faculty to provide clinical instruction to address the need for qualified faculty to accommodate increased student enrollment in the professional nursing program.<sup>155</sup>

According to one analysis, the program has been "highly effective."<sup>156</sup> Throughout the 2007 to 2018 period of study, the number of nursing graduates per year increased nearly every

<sup>150</sup> See *Song-Brown Healthcare Workforce Training Program*, Department of Health Care Access and Information, <https://hcai.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/2021/06/Registered-Nurse-Outcome-Flyer-HCAI-2022.pdf>.

<sup>151</sup> *Id.*

<sup>152</sup> 2001 Tex. Gen. Laws 5284, [https://lrl.texas.gov/scanned/sessionLaws/77-0/SB\\_572\\_CH\\_1489.pdf](https://lrl.texas.gov/scanned/sessionLaws/77-0/SB_572_CH_1489.pdf).

<sup>153</sup> *Id.*

<sup>154</sup> See Tex. Educ. Code Ann. § 61.9622, <https://statutes.capitol.texas.gov/Docs/ED/htm/ED.61.htm#61.9622> and *Nursing Shortage Reduction Program*, Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board, <https://www.highered.texas.gov/our-work/supporting-our-institutions/institutional-grant-opportunities/nursing-shortage-reduction-program/>. See also Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board Rules, 19 Tex. Admin. Code §22.501 et seq.

[https://texreg.sos.state.tx.us/public/readtac\\$ext.ViewTAC?tac\\_view=5&ti=19&pt=1&ch=22&sch=S&rl=Y](https://texreg.sos.state.tx.us/public/readtac$ext.ViewTAC?tac_view=5&ti=19&pt=1&ch=22&sch=S&rl=Y).

<sup>155</sup> See Tex. Educ. Code Ann. § 61.9623(a)(1), <https://statutes.capitol.texas.gov/Docs/ED/htm/ED.61.htm#61.9623>.

<sup>156</sup> *The Nursing Shortage Reduction Program*, Texas Nurses Association, 2 (2022-2023), [https://cdn.ymaws.com/www.texasnurses.org/resource/resmgr/docs/gac/2022/Nursing\\_Shortage\\_Reduction\\_P.pdf](https://cdn.ymaws.com/www.texasnurses.org/resource/resmgr/docs/gac/2022/Nursing_Shortage_Reduction_P.pdf) ("Recent analysis of the program by [the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board] using Texas Center for Nursing Workforce Studies data shows the [Nursing Shortage Reduction Program] has been highly effective and has room to grow.")

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year, despite inconsistent amounts of funding over the years. Texas nurse graduates increased from 8,467 in 2007 to 20,045 in 2018, and pre-registered nurse licensure student admissions increased from 10,856 for the 2008-2009 academic year to 16,284 for the 2017-2018 academic year.<sup>157</sup>

The most common uses of grant money by the nursing schools have been to retain faculty nurses (24.1% of funds), for nursing faculty education (20.6% of funds), and for preceptors (19.2% of funds).<sup>158</sup>

### **The Nursing and Allied Health Initiative (Massachusetts)**

In 2005, Massachusetts formed what later became the Nursing and Allied Health Initiative through a collaboration of private and public entities to address the root causes of the nursing shortage: limited faculty, insufficient clinical education capacity, and inadequate laboratory teaching facilities.<sup>159</sup>

In the subsequent years, the Massachusetts legislature funded the initiative, which then, according to a 2012 report, developed or helped to develop various programs, including:

- The Nursing Workforce Development Framework, a framework for the progression of newly licensed and incumbent nurses to further and advance their education and job levels as the demographics of the patient population change.
- Nurse of the Future Nursing Core Competencies, a framework developed by the schools and practice partners to ensure that nursing program curricula reflect contemporary demands.
- The purchase of simulation manikins to support clinical education.
- Use of the Centralized Clinical Placement System,<sup>160</sup> the web-based software tool to maximize the number of nursing students placed in clinical nursing education.
- Welcome Back Center, a program to help nurses trained in foreign countries obtain a Massachusetts nursing license.

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<sup>157</sup> See *Evaluation of the Nursing Shortage Reduction Program*, Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board, 7-8 (2020) <https://reportcenter.highered.texas.gov/meeting/advisory-committee-supporting-documents/evaluation-of-nursing-shortage-reduction-program-report-october-2020/>. This evaluation did not mention whether the increases in graduates and enrollment may also be attributable to other factors.

<sup>158</sup> See *id.* at 12.

<sup>159</sup> See *Nursing and Allied Health Workforce Development, A Strategic Workforce Plan for Massachusetts' Healthcare Sector*, Massachusetts Department of Higher Education, 5 (2012), [https://www.mass.edu/strategic/documents/AAC13-15NursingandAlliedHealthWorkforceDevelopmentPlan\\_asamendedbyAACCommitteewithreport.pdf](https://www.mass.edu/strategic/documents/AAC13-15NursingandAlliedHealthWorkforceDevelopmentPlan_asamendedbyAACCommitteewithreport.pdf).

<sup>160</sup> See also *supra* note 69.

- Scholarships for clinical nurses who enroll in master's or doctoral nursing programs and commit to teach for at least one year upon graduation.
- Education Redesign Grants for schools to implement necessary core competencies into their curriculum and practice, develop curricula centered on gerontology, and implement pilot models for the progression of licensed practice nurses to obtain a bachelor of science in nursing degree and for individuals with an associate degree in nursing to obtain a bachelor of science in nursing degree and a master of science in nursing degree.<sup>161</sup>

While recent reports on the results of the various programs are not readily available, the Nursing and Allied Health Initiative website touts, in large letters "Big News: 62% increase in BSN graduates in MA from 2010 to 2015!"<sup>162</sup>

### **Bridge to Professional Practice Program (Connecticut)**

The Bridge to Professional Practice Program in Connecticut was developed during the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic to provide senior-level baccalaureate nursing students with hours of clinical experience required for their nursing degrees while reducing hospital nursing workforce shortages.

In late 2020, Connecticut hospitals faced workforce staffing issues, particularly due to a strained nursing workforce<sup>163</sup> and shortage of travel nurses.<sup>164</sup> Meanwhile, schools and healthcare facilities had suspended clinical placements<sup>165</sup> due to uncertainties about COVID-19 and a shortage of personal protective equipment.<sup>166</sup> The suspension of clinical placements prevented nursing students from completing enough clinical hours required for a degree<sup>167</sup> and to qualify for the National Council Licensure Examination (NCLEX).<sup>168</sup> A delayed nursing degree would have

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<sup>161</sup> See *id.* at 5-9.

<sup>162</sup> *About the Nursing & Allied Health Initiative*, Massachusetts Department of Higher Education, <https://www.mass.edu/nahi/about/about.asp> (last visited Sept. 30, 2024). See also *Academic Progression Making Great Progress*, Massachusetts Action Coalition, <https://www.mass.edu/nahi/documents/AcademicProgression-UpdatefromRWJFGrantreport-Final.pdf>.

<sup>163</sup> See Mary Cleary, et. al., *Reshaping the Future: An Innovative Academic-Practice Collaboration for COVID-19 Vaccinations and Testing*, 46(2) *Nursing Admin.*, 167-176 (2022), [https://journals.lww.com/naqjournal/fulltext/2022/04000/reshaping\\_the\\_future\\_an\\_innovative.9.aspx](https://journals.lww.com/naqjournal/fulltext/2022/04000/reshaping_the_future_an_innovative.9.aspx).

<sup>164</sup> See Mary E. Dietmann, et. al., *How the Practice/Academic Partnership Model Helped One State During COVID-19*, *Leader to Leader*, 8-9 (Fall 2021), [https://digitalcommons.sacredheart.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1301&context=nurs\\_fac](https://digitalcommons.sacredheart.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1301&context=nurs_fac).

<sup>165</sup> Clinical placements in healthcare facilities allow nursing students to gain real-world experience and complete the clinical hours required for a nursing degree. See Brian Koonz, *Commitment and Innovation Guide Nursing Students, Faculty In Pandemic*, *Quinnipiac Magazine*, August 24, 2022, <https://www.qu.edu/magazine/commitment-and-innovation-guide--nursing-students-faculty-in-pandemic/>.

<sup>166</sup> See Cleary, et al., *supra* note 163, at 168.

<sup>167</sup> See *id.*

<sup>168</sup> See *supra* note 165.

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the further effect of disrupting the hospitals that had planned to employ those students following an expected graduation date.<sup>169</sup>

In response to these issues, the nursing schools and hospitals partnered to develop the Bridge to Professional Practice Program to allow nursing students entering their final semester to complete clinical hours.<sup>170</sup> The program began in December 2020, a nonclinical time of the school year between the fall and spring semesters.<sup>171</sup> More than 330 students in three cohorts participated.<sup>172</sup>

The nursing schools recruited and hired clinical faculty members to oversee the students, and the hospital system funded payments for the clinical faculty members.<sup>173</sup> The program "provided the healthcare institutions with well-needed extra hands during the crisis"<sup>174</sup> and helped to "ensure adequate staffing."<sup>175</sup> As part of the program, students also assisted in greeting, screening, and vaccinating patients, resulting in a savings of over \$144,000 that the hospitals would have spent on staff to fulfill those roles.<sup>176</sup> Clinical faculty members were on-call when the students were at the hospitals and were also required to regularly visit each student with the student's preceptor.<sup>177</sup> The program assigned students to preceptors for the twelve-hour day or evening shifts.<sup>178</sup> While the program did not pay individuals for precepting, those individuals could use the experience toward career advancement in the health care system.<sup>179</sup>

Evaluations of the Bridge to Professional Practice Program were generally positive. One study on the program stated, "[t]he health care system benefited as this program provided much need assistance at the bedside."<sup>180</sup> In surveys, preceptors reported that the experience was helpful to their workload, professionally beneficial, and had minimal impact on their stress levels.<sup>181</sup> Student surveys expressed positive experiences and agreement with the statements that the "experience prepared me [to practice nursing,]" the "program aided in my ability to prioritize the healthcare needs of patients," and "[after my experience with the program,] I am satisfied in choosing nursing as my career."<sup>182</sup> However, surveys of nurse managers indicated that the "students did not greatly enhance the unit staffing from the managers' perspective."<sup>183</sup> Specifically,

<sup>169</sup> See Judith Hahn, et al., *An Innovative Academic/Practice Partnership to Support Nursing Workforce Needs and Student Clinical Education*, 53(2) *J. of Nursing Admin.*, 88-95, 88 (2023), [https://journals.lww.com/jonajournal/fulltext/2023/02000/an\\_innovative\\_academic\\_practice\\_partnership\\_to.5.aspx](https://journals.lww.com/jonajournal/fulltext/2023/02000/an_innovative_academic_practice_partnership_to.5.aspx)

<sup>170</sup> See *id.* at 89.

<sup>171</sup> See Dietmann, et al., *supra* note 164, at 9.

<sup>172</sup> See Hahn, et al., *supra* note 169, at 90.

<sup>173</sup> See *id.* at 89.

<sup>174</sup> *Id.* at 93.

<sup>175</sup> Cleary, et al., *supra* note 163, at 170.

<sup>176</sup> See *id.* at 172.

<sup>177</sup> See Hahn, et al., *supra* note 169, at 89.

<sup>178</sup> See *id.* at 90.

<sup>179</sup> See *id.*

<sup>180</sup> Audrey Beauvais, et al., *Educating Nursing Students Through the Pandemic: The Essentials of Collaboration*, 7 *SAGE Open Nursing* 1-6, 5 (2021), available at <https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/epub/10.1177/23779608211062678>.

<sup>181</sup> See Hahn, et al., *supra* note 169, at 91.

<sup>182</sup> *Id.* at 91.

<sup>183</sup> *Id.* at 94.

following the conclusion of the program, thirty-two nurse managers were sent a set of six survey questions to evaluate various outcomes of the program.<sup>184</sup> One of the survey questions was "How helpful was a student in unit staffing?" and the nurse managers could answer on a 1-5 scale.<sup>185</sup> Nine nurse managers responded to the survey questions and the average numerical response to that question was a 3.4 with 3 meaning "unsure" and 4 meaning "somewhat."<sup>186</sup>

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<sup>184</sup> *See id.* at 92.

<sup>185</sup> *See id.*

<sup>186</sup> *See id.*

## Chapter 5

### CONCLUSION AND CONSIDERATIONS

There appears to be a consensus among healthcare associations, nurse advocacy groups, and academic researchers that, in any particular healthcare setting, nurses who are assigned to fewer patients have better patient outcomes and experience preferable employment conditions compared to nurses who are assigned to more patients in the same healthcare setting.<sup>1</sup> There are multiple approaches to achieving these results, each with some evidentiary support.

Many states use mandated nurse staffing ratios in at least some healthcare settings. While state-mandated ratios appear to have had a positive effect on patient outcomes and job satisfaction for nurses, there is no definitive evidence that they have *eliminated* a state's nursing workforce shortage. Notably, more than two decades after California became the first state to legislatively implement mandatory nurse-to-patient ratios, the state continues to experience a nursing workforce shortfall. However, there does appear to be some evidence that state-mandated nurse-to-patient ratios have had some effect on at least *reducing* a nursing workforce shortage.<sup>2</sup>

Alternatives to mandated nurse staffing ratios, such as allowing or requiring hospitals to establish their own nurse-to-patient ratios, requiring hospitals to have a sufficient number of nurses on duty, requiring nurse staffing levels to be publicly reported, and limiting or prohibiting mandatory overtime hours can, in some circumstances, improve nurse staffing levels, working conditions, and retention. However, it similarly has not been definitively established that any of these alternatives have eliminated a state's nursing workforce shortage.<sup>3</sup> Nevertheless, as with state-mandated ratios, there does appear to be evidence that these initiatives can at least reduce a state's nursing workforce shortage. Moreover, there is no clear evidence that any single approach is the most effective in reducing a state's nursing workforce shortage or that there is a consensus among the states for a particular set of approaches.<sup>4</sup>

Accordingly, the Bureau suggests implementing a combination of the approaches mentioned in this report to reduce Hawaii's nursing workforce shortage, but makes no specific recommendations regarding the most effective or advisable approach.

Similarly, the Bureau also suggests adopting a multi-faceted approach toward increasing the number of nurse graduates. Other states have successfully increased their number of nurse graduates with programs to support nurse preceptors, incentivize nursing schools to increase enrollment, provide nursing students with more opportunities for clinical placements, and incentivize nurses to work in areas with nursing shortages.<sup>5</sup> While there is also no evidence that

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<sup>1</sup> See Chapter 2, section entitled Evaluating Outcomes: The Efficacy of State-Mandated Nurse Staffing Ratios.

<sup>2</sup> See *id.*, Sections entitled Staffing Committees: An Alternative Approach to Mandated Staffing Ratios and subsequent sections.

<sup>3</sup> See *id.*

<sup>4</sup> See Chapter 3, Introduction section and included table.

<sup>5</sup> See Chapter 4, sections under Efforts in Other States to Address Nursing Workforce Shortages.

## CONCLUSION AND CONSIDERATIONS

these programs alone have eliminated any states' nursing workforce shortage, it does appear that each program had a positive impact on increasing the respective state's nursing workforce.<sup>6</sup>

In addition to implementing programs based upon successful efforts in other states, the Bureau suggests funding existing Hawaii programs that have never been funded or have not been recently funded, including the Nursing Scholars Program and Hawaii Rural Health Care Provider Loan Repayment Program,<sup>7</sup> and establishing reporting requirements relating to these programs. Given that there has been no recent funding for or recent data available on these programs, the Bureau is unable to comment on their effectiveness. Sufficient funding and reporting requirements should help to inform future legislatures on the effectiveness of these existing programs, including whether the programs should be retained, modified, or eliminated.

Lastly, the Bureau suggests seriously considering recommendations made by the various nursing and other healthcare entities throughout the State. These entities have years or decades of first-hand experience with nursing, including nursing workforce, and health care issues in Hawaii, in contrast to the few months the Bureau has had to study these issues.

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<sup>6</sup> *See id.*

<sup>7</sup> *See id.*



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# HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE BUREAU TO CONDUCT A STUDY  
ON BEST PRACTICES FOR NURSE STAFFING IN HEALTH CARE  
FACILITIES.

1           WHEREAS, the State is facing a persistent health care  
2 staffing shortage, which has been exacerbated by the challenges  
3 posed by the coronavirus disease 2019 pandemic; and  
4

5           WHEREAS, as a result of this ongoing shortage, the staff-  
6 to-patient ratio has greatly increased, leading to working  
7 conditions becoming increasingly unpredictable and unsafe and  
8 increasing the rate of burnout among health care professionals;  
9 and  
10

11           WHEREAS, research has shown that improved staff-to-patient  
12 ratios greatly improve patient safety and outcomes; and  
13

14           WHEREAS, identifying best practices in labor standards for  
15 health care facilities will help inform lawmakers on how to  
16 improve working conditions for health care professionals and  
17 increase recruitment and retention; now, therefore,  
18

19           BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the  
20 Thirty-second Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular  
21 Session of 2024, the Senate concurring, that the Legislative  
22 Reference Bureau is requested to conduct a study on best  
23 practices for nurse staffing in health care facilities which  
24 shall assess and discuss:  
25

- 26           (1) Existing nursing staffing standards and regulations in  
27 other states; and  
28  
29           (2) A literature review of best practices for staffing and  
30 workforce development, along with successful efforts



1           in other states to address the nursing workforce  
2           shortage; and

3  
4           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislative Reference  
5 Bureau is requested to submit a report of its findings and  
6 recommendations to the Legislature no later than twenty days  
7 prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2025; and

8  
9           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a certified copy of this  
10 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Director of the  
11 Legislative Reference Bureau.



## Appendix B

	State-Mandated Nurse Staffing Standards		Facility-Determined Nurse Staffing Standards		Reporting Requirements	Prohibits Mandatory Overtime
	General	Ratios	Staffing Committees	Other		
Alabama	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>					
Alaska	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>					<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Arizona	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				
Arkansas	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				
California		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				
Colorado	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			
Connecticut	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Delaware		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				
District of Columbia	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				
Florida		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				
Georgia		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				
Hawaii	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>					
Idaho						
Illinois	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Indiana		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				
Iowa		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				
Kansas	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>					

	State-Mandated Nurse Staffing Standards		Facility-Determined Nurse Staffing Standards		Reporting Requirements	Prohibits Mandatory Overtime
	General	Ratios	Staffing Committees	Other		
Kentucky	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <sup>1</sup>		
Louisiana						
Maine						<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Maryland		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Massachusetts		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Michigan	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>					
Minnesota	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <sup>2</sup>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mississippi	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>					
Missouri	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>					<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Montana	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>					
Nebraska	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>					
Nevada	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			
New Hampshire	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>					<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
New Jersey	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
New Mexico	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>					
New York		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
North Carolina	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>					
North Dakota	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>					

<sup>1</sup> Hospitals are required to have a staffing plan, but the law does not specify who should create the plan.

<sup>2</sup> A Chief Nursing Executive or nursing designee determines the staffing plan.

	State-Mandated Nurse Staffing Standards		Facility-Determined Nurse Staffing Standards		Reporting Requirements	Prohibits Mandatory Overtime
	General	Ratios	Staffing Committees	Other		
Ohio	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <sup>3</sup>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			
Oklahoma	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>					<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Oregon			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			
Pennsylvania	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Rhode Island	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>					<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
South Carolina	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>					
South Dakota	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>					
Tennessee	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>					
Texas	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Utah		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				
Vermont	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Virginia	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>					
Washington	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
West Virginia	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Wisconsin		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				
Wyoming	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>					

<sup>3</sup> Requires "sufficient" and "appropriate" staffing but requires staffing needs to be determined based on patient acuity.

Charlotte A. Carter-Yamauchi  
Director

Shawn K. Nakama  
First Assistant

Research 808-587-0666  
Revisor 808-587-0670  
Fax 808-587-0681



LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE BUREAU  
State of Hawaii  
State Capitol, Room 446  
415 S. Beretania Street  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

May 22, 2024

Dear

Subject: House Concurrent Resolution 187, H.D. 1, S.D. 1 (2024), Requesting the Legislative Reference Bureau to Conduct a Study on the Best Practices for Nurse Staffing in Health Care Facilities

I am writing to offer your entity an opportunity to bring to our attention any information that should be considered by the Legislative Reference Bureau in response to House Concurrent Resolution 187, H.D. 1, S.D. 1 (2024), a copy of which is attached for your convenience.

The concurrent resolution requests the Legislative Reference Bureau to study best practices for nurse staffing in health care facilities and to submit a report to the Hawaii State Legislature no later than December 26, 2024, that assesses and discusses:

- (1) Existing nursing staffing standards and regulations in other states; and
- (2) A literature review of best practices for staffing and workforce development, along with successful efforts in other states to address the nursing workforce shortage.

We ask that any information you bring to our attention be publicly available, directly responsive to the specific request made by the concurrent resolution, reasonable in volume, and if applicable, supported by data or empirical evidence or other documentation that supports the information. We also request that you submit your response by June 30, 2024.

If the responses are not voluminous and subject to other publication restrictions, we hope to include them as an appendix to our report. Accordingly, if any information is available online, you may share the website address instead of providing the entire document.

May 22, 2024

You may mail or deliver your response to the above address or email  
If you have any questions, please contact Devin Choy or Valerie Grey  
by phone at 808-587-0666.

The Bureau appreciates your cooperation and looks forward to receiving your input on this matter.

Very truly yours,

Charlotte A. Carter-Yamauchi  
Director

Enc.



888 Mililani Street, Suite 401  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813-2991

Telephone: 808.543.0000  
Facsimile: 808.528.4059

[www.hgea.org](http://www.hgea.org)

Legislative Reference Bureau  
State of Hawaii  
State Capitol, Room 446  
415 S. Beretania Street  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

June 28, 2024

Subject: Hawaii Government Employee Association’s Response to Legislative Reference Bureau’s Request for Response in Re: House Concurrent Resolution 187, H.D.1, S.D.1 (2024)

To whom it may concern,

The Hawaii Government Employees Association welcomes this opportunity to discuss a long-standing concern and respectfully encourages this legislature to take prompt and decisive action to remedy it.

Legally-mandated and enforceable nurse-to-patient ratios, known colloquially as “safe staffing” and “safe staffing ratios”, ensure that there are enough staff to keep both staff and patients safe, and provide an environment of care that ensures continued positive patient and staff outcomes.

One state on the West Coast of the United States, California, has adopted a “nurse-to-patient ratio” or “safe staffing” statute<sup>1</sup>. That statute is known colloquially as A.B. 394<sup>2</sup>.

A.B. 394 is a safe staffing law that has multiple provisions designed to remedy unsafe staffing and achieve safe staffing in acute-care facilities. The safe staffing standards therein are based on individual patient acuity, of which the Registered Professional Nurse (“RPN”) ratios are the minimum.

<sup>1</sup> [https://leginfo.legislature.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill\\_id=199920000AB394](https://leginfo.legislature.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill_id=199920000AB394)

<sup>2</sup> Id.



A.B. 394 requires the following nurse-to-patient ratios in the following settings to achieve safe staffing:

- 1:1 - Operating Room Trauma Patient in ER;
- 1:2 - Intensive/Critical Care, Neonatal Intensive Care, Post-Anesthesia Recovery, Labor & Delivery, and ICU Patient in ER;
- 1:3 – Step Down;
- 1:4 – Antepartum, Post-Partum Couplets, Pediatrics, Emergency Room, Telemetry, and Other Specialty Care;
- 1:5 - Medical/Surgical; and
- 1:6 – Postpartum Women Only and Psychiatric<sup>3</sup>.

A.B. 394 has the following effects:

- Mandates Minimum, Specific, Numerical Ratios; and
- Requires a Patient Classification System – Additional RNs Added Based on Patient Acuity and Need; and
- Regulates Unlicensed Staff; and
- Restricts Unsafe “Floating” or Nursing Staff; and
- Applies At All Times; and
- Prohibits Averaging; and
- Bars Cuts in In Ancillary Staff as a Result of Nurse-To-Patient Ratios<sup>4</sup>.

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<sup>3</sup> Id.

<sup>4</sup> Id.

There is much we can learn California's experience. A.B. 394 has been subject of exhaustive studies into its effects on health & safety and patient outcomes. **The effects of A.B. 394 have been clear and wide reaching - Despite claims otherwise, safe staffing has saved money and lives.**

**“Safe staffing” saves lives.** Hospitals that have nurse-to-patient ratios at 1:8 experience five (5) additional deaths per 1,000 patients than those that staff using a safe staffing nurse-to-patient ratio of 1:4<sup>5</sup>. The odds of patient death increase by 7% for each additional patient the nurse must take on at one time<sup>6</sup>. Outcomes are better for patients when staffing levels meet those established by A.B. 394 in California, including an increase in lives saved, shorter hospital stays, and general improvement in quality care<sup>7</sup>. Studies by independent physicians support these findings; for example, a study by Dr. Linda Aiken, PhD, RN, FAAN, estimates that there would have been 4,370 fewer in-hospital deaths in a two (2) year period among Medicare patients if New York State hospitals implemented “safe staffing” during the time of the study<sup>8</sup>. These were *preventable* deaths – preventable in that, but for legally-mandated and enforceable “safe staffing”, many or all of those 4,370 people likely would have survived their treatment if “safe staffing” had been maintained<sup>9</sup>.

**“Safe staffing” ratios are not prohibitively expensive and they do not result in clinic and/or hospital closures, nor layoffs of non-nursing staff.** For example, after ratios were implemented via A.B. 394 in California, hospital income actually rose dramatically from

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<sup>5</sup> Journal of American Medical Association 2002.

<sup>6</sup> Id.

<sup>7</sup> Health Services Research 2010.

<sup>8</sup> Medical Care 2021.

<sup>9</sup> Id.

approximately \$12.5 Billion Dollars to more than approximately \$20.6 Billion Dollars<sup>10</sup>. Some hospital managers reported that being required to comply with a safe staffing ratios mandate actually made it *easier* to secure funding for hospitals<sup>11</sup>. Increased nurse staffing is a more cost-effective tactic improve patient care when compared to other interventions<sup>12</sup>. Ancillary staff remain vital to healthcare – California hospitals did not decide to cut non-nursing jobs as a result of “safe staffing” ration in their efforts to cut costs.

**There is a substantial cost to high employee turnover in hospitals, and “safe staffing” has reduced employee turnover in hospitals<sup>13</sup>.** High turnover is present where nurse-to-patient ratios are high, which increases the cost of care<sup>14</sup>. Turnover is expensive – the average cost to replace an RPN ranged from \$82,000 to \$88,000 as of 2008<sup>15</sup>. That cost has inevitably increased since 2008. “Safe staffing” has reduced turnover, and therefore the costs associated with it.

**There is a substantial cost to patient readmission to hospitals, and “safe staffing” may also reduce expensive patient readmission to hospitals, therefore reducing costs.** Nurse understaffing in hospital ICUs increases the risk of infections like pneumonia, which not only lead to injury and death, but also cost the hospital significant amounts of money. Hospital-acquired pressure ulcers alone have been estimated to cost \$8.5. Billion Dollars per year<sup>16</sup>. If New York State hospitals had had “safe staffing” in the two-year period prior to the pandemic,

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<sup>10</sup> [Research Shows Safe Staffing Saves Lives | New York State Nurses Association \(nysna.org\)](https://www.nysna.org/research-shows-safe-staffing-saves-lives)

<sup>11</sup> California Health Care Foundation.

<sup>12</sup> Nursing Administration Quarterly 2011.

<sup>13</sup> Id.

<sup>14</sup> Id.

<sup>15</sup> The Journal of Nursing Administration 2008.

<sup>16</sup> Agency for Healthcare Quality and Research Pub. No. 04-0029 2004.

they would have saved \$720 Million Dollars because of avoided days of hospital care from shorter lengths of stay and fewer readmissions from better nurse staffing<sup>17</sup>. Doing nothing to manage one of the many factors that play a role in readmission – unsafe staffing ratios – does nothing to manage or reduce this cost. “Safe staffing” may reduce readmission, and therefore the costs associated with it.

**There is a substantial cost to liability acquired when there are adverse outcomes for patients, and “safe staffing” has reduced adverse outcomes for patients.** Length of stay, urinary tract infections, cases of upper gastrointestinal bleeding all increased due to unsafe staffing ratios<sup>18</sup>. Rates of hospital-acquired pneumonia and shock cardiac arrest, as well as failure to rescues also climbed due to unsafe staffing<sup>19</sup>. For patients to hospitals with sepsis, each additional patient per nurse is associated with 12% higher odds of in-hospital mortality, 7% odds of 60-day mortality [and] 7% higher odds of 60-day readmission<sup>20</sup>. Adverse outcomes for patients inevitably result in increases in potential and actual legal liability, and therefore more resources being utilized to fund litigation and settlements. This, of course, increases the cost of care rather reducing it.

These statistics also seem to substantiate an anecdotal “truth” that has been observed patients and caregivers alike – **both patient and RPN outcomes improve when RPNs have more face-to-face time with each patient.** A key part of care is mental aspect of care which is notably reduced and otherwise devalued in environments where nurse-to-patient ratios are lower.

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<sup>17</sup> Medical Care 2021.

<sup>18</sup> New England Journal of Medicine 346 (22) 1715-22.

<sup>19</sup> Id.

<sup>20</sup> American Journal of Infection Control 2020.

There is simply less time to devote to ensuring that kupuna are comfortable and on their way to recovery when nurse-to-patient ratios are so high that impersonal treatment becomes guaranteed. When you are treated like a number, you feel like a number. This cannot improve patient outcomes.

**Finally, Employers can pass on the cost-savings resulting from “nurse-to-patient ratios” and “safe staffing” to consumers and the electorate.** Given that there is a substantial cost to readmission and liability acquired when there are adverse outcomes for patients, and “safe staffing” has reduced adverse outcomes for patients, it follows that this substantial cost can be turned into cost *savings* if low “nurse-to-patient ratios” and “safe staffing” are imposed and enforced. This cost savings can be conceivably passed on to patients, where applicable, resulting in cost savings on crucial care for consumers and the electorate that relies on care provided by and at government-funded and run facilities.

In short, safe staffing both saves lives and reduces adverse outcomes more generally, and are cost effective for the facilities that are required to comply with a safe staffing ratio mandate. Thus, not only is it the right thing to do – it’s also a net benefit to those who are required to comply, those who administer the care, and those who are placed in their care. Everyone benefits from low “nurse-to-patient ratios” and “safe staffing”.

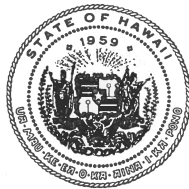
Accordingly, HGEA thanks the Legislative Reference Bureau for this opportunity to discuss a long-standing concern, and respectfully encourages this legislature to take prompt and decisive action to remedy it.

Aloha,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'John E.', written in a cursive style.

JESSE SLIVA  
Advocacy Manager

JOSH GREEN, M.D.  
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII  
KE KIA'ĀINA O KA MOKU'ĀINA O HAWAII



KENNETH S. FINK, M.D., M.G.A., M.P.H.  
DIRECTOR OF HEALTH  
KA LUNA HO'OKELE

In reply, please refer to  
file: 24-001491

STATE OF HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH  
KA 'OIHANA OLAKINO  
OFFICE OF HEALTH CARE ASSURANCE  
601 KAMOKILA BOULEVARD, ROOM 361  
KAPOLEI, HAWAII 96707

July 10, 2024

Charlotte A. Carter-Yamauchi  
Director  
Legislative Reference Bureau  
415 S. Beretania Street  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

RE: House Concurrent Resolution 187, H.D. 1, S.D. 1 (2024) Best Practices for Nurse Staffing in Health Care Facilities

Dear Mrs. Carter-Yamauchi,

The Department of Health has received your letter, dated May 22, 2024, regarding House Concurrent Resolution 187, H.D.1, S.D.1 (2024). The Department appreciates the opportunity to give input on this measure.

Currently in Hawaii, only the facility types of Adult Residential Care Homes (ARCH), Expanded Adult Residential Care Homes (E-ARCH), and dialysis facilities have required staffing ratios. ARCHs and E-ARCHs have a current staff to resident (patient) ratio of one to five (1:5) or one to two point five (1:2.5). The staff requirement is for Nurse Aides, and Registered Nurse licensure is not required. The ratio may be higher in facilities with a fire suppression safety system (sprinklers) throughout the entire facility. CMS has recently finalized minimum staffing standards for nursing homes (<https://public-inspection.federalregister.gov/2024-08273.pdf>).

Dialysis centers in Hawaii are required to have a ratio of one to eight (1:8) for nurses and one to four (1:4) for patient care technicians, based on federal recommendations. One study on dialysis center staffing ratios in four states was unable to find a meaningful effect of staffing ratios on quality of care, including hospitalization and death.

Hawaii does not have required hospital nurse staffing ratios. Currently only two (2) states, California and Massachusetts, have hospital nurse staffing ratios in State law. California: AB 394 passed in 1999 and requires ratios varying from one to one (1:1) to one to six (1:6) depending on the type of care/unit. Massachusetts: 958 CMR 8.00 passed in 2015 requires a one to one (1:1) ratio in the ICU, and nurses may take a second patient in the ICU based on their clinical judgement; no staffing ratio exists for other hospital units.

Charlotte A. Carter-Yamauchi

July 10, 2024

Page 2

The Department of Health supports nurse staffing levels that are appropriate to safely meet patients' nursing needs.

Sincerely,



JUSTIN LAM, R.N.

Acting Chief

Office of Health Care Assurance

c: Kenneth S. Fink, MD, MGA, MPH  
Director of Health

Deborah K. Morikawa  
Deputy Director, Health Resources Administration

References:

<https://worldpopulationreview.com/state-rankings/nurse-patient-ratios-by-state>

<https://www.mass.gov/doc/final-icu-nurse-staffing-regulation/download>

<https://www.cga.ct.gov/2004/rpt/2004-R-0212.htm>

<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC9007864/>

<https://health.hawaii.gov/opppd/files/2015/06/11-100.1.pdf>



**From:** [Paige Heckathorn Choy](#)  
**To:** [Devin Choy](#)  
**Subject:** Information re: HCR 187  
**Date:** Thursday, June 27, 2024 3:22:51 PM  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)  
[image002.png](#)  
[image003.png](#)  
[image004.png](#)  
[Copy of Literature Review Nurse Staffing.xlsx](#)  
[HCR 187 Lit Review.zip](#)  
[HCR 187 SNF minimum nurse staffing final rule.pptx](#)

You don't often get email from pchoy@hah.org. [Learn why this is important](#)

**CAUTION:** This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Hi Devin: I am trying not to bombard your inbox with information but wanted to provide an overview of how we're looking at this issue.

First, I want to point your attention to the attached literature review, which was completed by a former direct care RN that we have at HAH working on various quality measures. You can review her work, along with the studies and other materials she used for her review.

In her research and in her experience, she has found that there is evidence that staffing standards do contribute to improved outcomes for patients and help with the retention of nurses. However, rigid ratios and standards enshrined in law do not reflect general best practices and will not keep up with evolving technology and guidance.

Most nursing specialties provide guidance on ideal staffing standards that take patient acuity, the experience and type of clinicians available, and other factors into account when recommending certain staffing standards. The levels of staffing needed will change vastly based on those and many other factors. Requiring all hospitals—including rural hospitals—to meet arbitrary standards in law not only risks telling clinicians how to practice but also could be incredibly costly.

We have seen in many states that these ratios result in millions of dollars in penalties that do not go into bolstering the workforce—instead, they are often used only to increase pay for nurses, which should more properly be negotiated in a collective bargaining agreement. Further, we know that no state who has implemented nurse staffing ratios has seen an improvement in their nurse workforce shortage. For example, California—which has had nurse staffing ratios in place for decades—has tens of thousands of open RN positions with no solution in sight.

While we understand that there is a focus on providing high quality of care, we would note that Hawaii consistently ranks very high on quality measures and in the overall health of the population. **The greatest concern for healthcare providers is that current and persistent nursing workforce shortage.**

You can see, below, data that we published in 2022 through our Healthcare Workforce Initiative Demand Survey. You can [find the full report here](#). As you can see—there were nearly 1,000 vacant RN positions. There was also a need for more than 500 nurse case and care managers, and just over 450 certified nurse assistants needed to serve our acute and post-acute care sectors.

Profession	2022						2019		
	Average Difficult to Fill Rating*	Average Turnover Rate	Filled Positions	Open Positions	Total Positions	Percent Open	Open Positions	Total Positions	Percent Open
<b>Nursing</b>									
NP by Specialty	2.1	20%	302	54	356	15%	47	310	15%
RN by Specialty	2.0	18%	6,283	999	7,282	14%	463	7,351	6%
Licensed Practical Nurse	1.8	22%	483	211	694	30%	144	713	20%
Nurse Care Manager	2.0	30%	241	44	285	15%	16	148	11%
Nurse Case Manager	2.4	17%	217	31	248	13%	44	553	8%

\*Difficult to Fill Rating scale: 1 – Very difficult 2 – Moderately difficult (can be filled within 6–12 months) 3 – Normal (can be filled within 6 months) 4 – Oversupply

Profession	2022						2019		
	Average Difficult to Fill Rating*	Average Turnover Rate	Filled Positions	Open Positions	Total Positions	Percent Open	Open Positions	Total Positions	Percent Open
<b>Patient Care</b>									
Medical Assistant	1.9	19%	1,266	278	1,544	18%	106	1,064	10%
Nursing Assistant	2.4	46%	1,315	286	1,601	18%	118	1,424	8%
Certified Nurse Aide	2.1	26%	2,132	458	2,590	18%	299	2,581	12%
Personal Care Assistant	2.3	43%	251	181	432	42%	35	406	9%

We have undertaken several initiatives to improve the nursing workforce in the state. We were part of the Good Jobs Initiative in the state, helping to pioneer innovative high school and community college programs to get more people into nursing positions. We are also grateful that the legislature passed HB 1827, which provides state funding to continue these programs. We are also proud that Hawaii [remains one of the healthiest states in the nation](#), despite these challenges.

However, there is a worldwide shortage of nurses, and the demand for RNs will get even worse in the next 3-5 years if a recently finalized rule from CMS goes into effect. I've attached another document outlining this rule, which will create minimum nurse staffing ratios in nursing homes.

Our analysis found that this would cost upwards of \$7 million additionally each year to effectuate and would reduce the number of long-term care beds available in the state by around 200. Nationally, the requirements in this bill would require 100,000 new nurses (77,000 CNAs and 24,000 RNs) and would cost \$6.5 billion a year. There is no additional funding to effectuate these minimum nurse staffing ratios, which will likely result in more nursing home closures in the state. (We already lost Wahiawa's nursing home during the pandemic, and we have heard from members that they will have to reduce services, close beds, or close entirely—the entirety of those results are in the attached presentation.

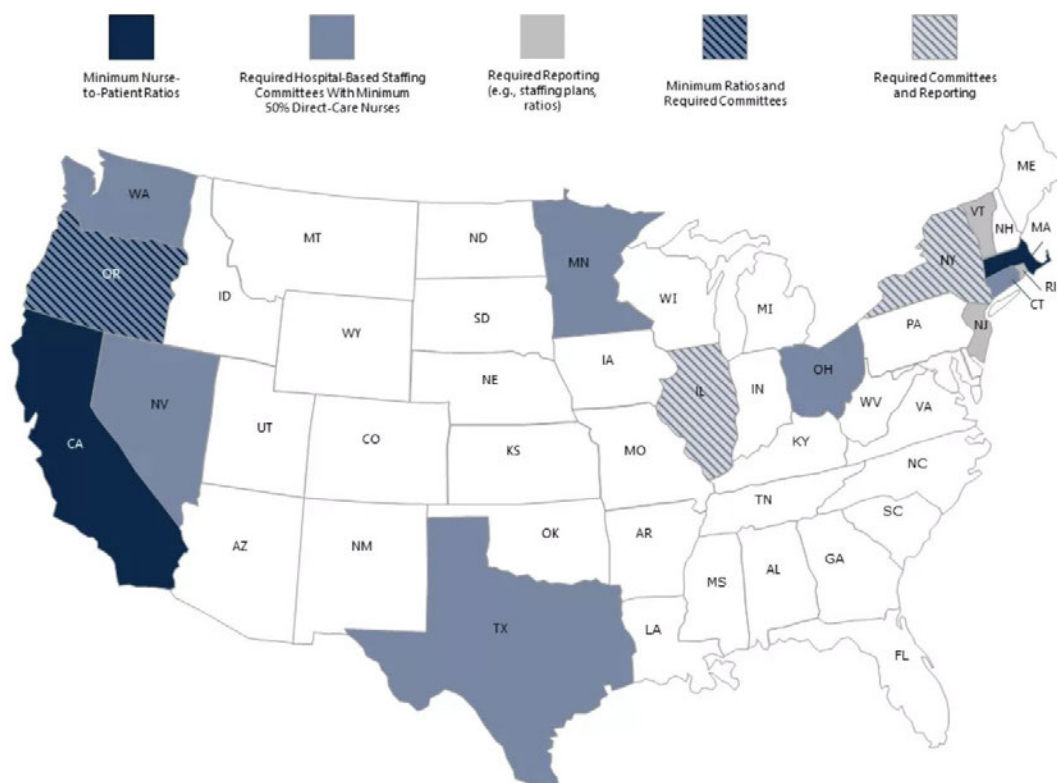
Island	Avg. Daily Census	CNA HPRD		Total Nurse Staffing HPRD	
		Average Daily Census Reduction	% of Days	Average Daily Census Reduction	% of Days
Big Island	580	-70	-12%	-25	-4%
Kauai	223	-32	-14%	-15	-7%
Maui	381	-13	-4%	-2	0%
Oahu	2,008	-78	-4%	-19	-1%
Total	3,192	-194	-6%	-61	-2%

*The reduction in the total number of beds that will be available, by island and overall, if the minimum nurse staffing ratios go into effect in nursing homes.*

We understand that a few states have passed legislation regarding minimum nurse staffing ratios. We have heard from our counterparts that some of these pieces of legislation are more reflective of actual hospital practices and constraints, including the lack of nursing workforce and the narrow operating margins of non-profit hospitals. (Of note, all hospitals in Hawaii are non-profit.)

According to [Chartis](#) and the [American Nursing Association \(ANA\)](#), there are three main types of laws and regulations that institute a safe staffing standard in hospitals. Those are:

1. Mandated ratios, which are inflexible numbers set in statute. California, Massachusetts, and Oregon passed laws with this type of rigid ratio-setting made permanent in law. *The legislation introduced in the Hawaii State Legislature reflects this inflexible approach and would put Hawaii in a small minority of states regarding how they address nurse staffing levels in hospitals.*
2. Staffing committees. Nine states have passed legislation requiring hospital-based staffing committees that would be made up of at least 50% direct care nurses.
3. Disclosure/reporting requirements. Five states have laws require hospitals to report their staffing plans to the state every year or two years. Information includes ratios used by specialty/floor/clinician, how the hospital sets ratios, and any applicable quality measure



Source: [https://www.chartis.com/insights/growing-number-laws-seek-address-hospital-staffing-concerns-core-problem-persists?utm\\_source=linkedin&utm\\_medium=social&utm\\_campaign=linkedin-newsletter&utm\\_term=staffing-newsletter-2-20](https://www.chartis.com/insights/growing-number-laws-seek-address-hospital-staffing-concerns-core-problem-persists?utm_source=linkedin&utm_medium=social&utm_campaign=linkedin-newsletter&utm_term=staffing-newsletter-2-20)

**We would suggest that any report consider workable solutions to any nurse staffing shortages, including supporting more workforce development and training programs. Specifically, funding would be necessary to cover the workforce development program costs, and any additional costs to hospitals and other settings for hiring more workers.** We do believe that there would be tens of millions needed to effectuate any strict ratio requirements.

We are happy to speak more in depth about this matter in a follow-up meeting.

If you are interested in speaking with subject matter experts, I would recommend the following individuals:

Julie Kathman  
Program Manager, HAH

Julie Chicoine  
Director, Compliance, Privacy, Risk Management & Govt. Relations  
Adventist Health Castle

Juanita Lauti  
VP and Chief Human Resource Officer  
HHSC Corporate

Amy Thomas  
HPH System Chief Nurse Executive

Dr. Shilpa Patel  
SVP, HPH System Chief Quality Officer

**Paige Heckathorn Choy**  
Associate Vice President, Government Affairs  
Healthcare Association of Hawaii



Citation (APA)	Purpose	Patient/Unit/Facility Population	Theoretic/Conceptual Framework	Sample	Design	Measurement	Results/Conclusions
DeJgado, S. A., Blake, N. T., Brown, T., DeLuca, L., Heedeman, J., & Cassidy, L. (2020). RN perspectives on unit-level nurse-to-patient ratio policy in adult medical-surgical units: A Delphi policy analysis. <i>Nursing Outlook</i> , 72(4), 102184.	Examines perspectives on unit-level nurse-to-patient ratio policy in adult medical-surgical units.	Med-Surg	none identified	28 enrolled panelists including direct care nurses, clinical leaders, executive nurse leaders, non-clinical leaders, faculty and providers	Delphi policy analysis	Survey in three rounds including Likert, rank order and open-ended questions. Results of each round informed the composition of successive rounds.	1. Survey completion - Round 1: 21; Rounds 2 & 3: 22 2. Unit-level staffing ratios could increase staffing levels, shorten LOS, reduce nurse turnover, improve current state of patients, not increase hospital closure, worsen work environments. 3. Consensus reached above policy minimum, decreased staffing could be an unintended consequence. A mitigation for this would be including a requirement for staffing based on patient acuity. 4. No consensus on impact to costs, innovation, increases in travel nurses, decreases in support staff, increasing floating to other units and mandatory overtime. 5. Consider unit-level ratio policies to lessen discord between those who support patient level ratio and those who oppose it.
Jennifer Dillon, M. P. A. (2020). Registered nurse staffing, workload, and their relationships to patient safety in hemodialysis units. <i>Nephrology Nursing Journal</i> , 47(2), 133-142.	The purpose of this study was to examine the complex interrelationships among RN staffing, RN workload, nursing care left undone, and patient safety outcomes including patient shift change safety and overall patient safety ratings.	Hemodialysis	The Nursing Organizations and Outcomes Model	104 hemodialysis direct care nurses	Cross-sectional correlational	2 subscales of the Hospital Survey on Patient Safety Culture: 1) Handoff and transitions scale 2) Patient Safety Grade, RN staffing, Workload subscale of the individual workload perception scale, and Nursing Care left undone.	High patient-to-RN staffing, high RN workloads, and nursing care left undone are key contributors to unsafe patient shift change periods and lower overall safety ratings in hemodialysis facilities. Findings from this study indicate that these patient safety outcomes can be enhanced by ensuring adequate RN staffing and reasonable workload as well as redesigning responsibilities so nurses have time to complete necessary and important care activities. By ensuring that RNs have the human resources and time that allow them to provide quality patient care, hemodialysis providers will enhance patient safety in their dialysis facilities.
Harrington C, Bellefield ME, Halifax E, Fleming ML, Bakerjian D. Appropriate Nurse Staffing Levels for U.S. Nursing Homes. <i>Health Services Insights</i> . 2020;13. doi:10.1177/1778632920934785	The purpose of this article is to present a guide to determine presence of adequate and appropriate nurse staffing at the facility level. It references current federal and state nurse staffing requirements and describes 5 basic steps for determining staffing levels	Nursing homes	none identified	not a study	Guide for determining sufficient staffing in nursing homes	n/a	This article cites 15 studies from 2002-2018 that illustrate the impact of improved staffing (including some describing ratios) on reduction in pressure injury, resident use, infections, weight loss, dehydration and mortality rates. It proposes a 3-step guide: (1) determine the current staffing level and identify any gaps, (2) identify appropriate nurse staffing levels to meet residents' care needs, (3) identify appropriate nurse staffing levels to meet residents' care needs, (4) examine evidence regarding the adequacy of staffing, and (5) identify gaps between the actual staffing and the appropriate nursing staffing level based on resident acuity.
Shin, S., Park, J. H., & Bae, S. H. (2013). The relationship between nurse staffing and nurse outcomes through meta-analysis. <i>Nursing outlook</i> , 66(3), 273-282.	The purpose of this review was to systematically synthesize empirical studies on the relationship between nurse staffing and nurse outcomes through meta-analysis.	Hospitals	2 of 13 included studies used a theoretical model/framework	13 studies (US and international)	Systematic review/Meta-analysis	Data were presented in a pooled odds ratio, random effects meta-regression model was applied, and heterogeneity of the effects were tested using I-squared statistic which describes variation across studies caused by heterogeneity vs. chance.	Higher nurse-to-patient ratios are related to negative nurse outcomes: burnout, job dissatisfaction, intent to leave. No patient outcomes were studied.
Jun, J., Ojemeni, M. M., Kalamani, R., Tong, J., & Crecelius, M. L. (2021). Relationship between nurse burnout, patient and organizational outcomes: Systematic review. <i>International journal of nursing studies</i> , 119, 103933.	The purpose of this review is to systematically and critically appraise the current literature to examine the associations between nurse burnout and patient and hospital organizational outcomes.	Hospitals	none identified	20 studies (US and international)	Systematic review	Maslach Burnout Inventory, Maslach Burnout Inventory-Human Service Survey, Safety Attitudes Questionnaire, Pennsylvania Health Care cost containment Council, NWI-Re-Nurse Work Index-Revised, job satisfaction, Hospital survey of patient safety culture, nurse-assessed quality of care, Taylor Manifest Anxiety Scale, HCAPPS, hospital quality questionnaire by patients, etc.	Burnout, especially emotional exhaustion of nurses, is negatively associated with quality and safety of care, patient satisfaction, nurses' organizational commitment, and productivity.
Griffiths, P., Sawille, C., Ball, J., Jones, J., Pattison, N., Monks, T., & Safer Nursing Workload, nurse staffing methodologies and tools: A systematic scoping review and discussion. <i>International journal of nursing studies</i> , 103, 103487.	Purpose of this scoping review was to provide an overview of the major approaches to assessing nurse staffing requirements and identify recent evidence in order to address unanswered questions including the accuracy and effectiveness of tools.	Hospitals	none identified	37 sources	Scoping review	Approaches for determining nurse staffing requirements: Professional judgement (Telford), Benchmarking approaches, nurse-patient ratios (volume-based), patient classification, timed task, regression-based approaches for utilizing tools for staffing: Prospective employment (how many staff should a unit employ), and concurrent deployment (how many staff should be used on a particular shift), and retrospective review (was number of staff appropriate for patient needs and financial benchmarks)	Recent years continue to see reports of new staffing tools and systems. Important sources of variability are neglected in published reports. Benefits are associated with increased staffing levels but the costs and benefits of using a tool as opposed to simply increasing staffing, remain unknown.

<p>Leaster, K. B., Alken, L. H., Sloane, D., French, R., Martin, B., Alexander, M., &amp; MCHugh, M. D. (2021). Patient outcomes and cost savings associated with hospital safe nurse staffing legislation: an observational study. <i>BMJ open</i>, 11(12), e02899.</p>	<p>Med-Surg</p>	<p>none identified</p>	<p>210,493 Medicare patients, 65 years and older, who were hospitalised in a study hospital. 1391 registered nurses employed in direct patient care on a medical-surgical unit in a study hospital</p>	<p>Cross-sectional analysis</p>	<p>Primary outcomes were 30-day mortality and length of stay. Deaths avoided and cost savings to hospitals were predicted based on results from regression estimates if hospitals were to have staffed at a 4:1 ratio during the study period. Cost savings were computed from reductions in lengths of stay using cost-to-charge ratios.</p>	<p>Patient-to-nurse staffing ratios on medical-surgical units ranged from 4.2 to 7.6 (means=5.4, SD=0.7). After adjusting for hospital and patient characteristics, the odds of 30-day mortality for each patient increased by 26% for each additional patient in the average nurse workload (OR 1.04 to 1.26, P&lt;0.001). The odds of staying in the hospital increased by 10% for each additional patient in the average nurse workload (OR 1.05 to 1.09, P&lt;0.001). If study hospitals staffed at a 4:1 ratio during the 1-year study period, more than 1595 deaths would have been avoided and hospitals would have collectively saved over \$117 million.</p>
<p>Dall'Ora, C., Saville, C., Rubbo, B., Turner, L., Jones, J., &amp; Griffiths, P. (2022). Nurse staffing levels and patient outcomes: a systematic review of longitudinal studies. <i>International Journal of Nursing Studies</i>, 134, 104911.</p>	<p>Hospitals (US and international)</p>	<p>none identified</p>	<p>27 studies</p>	<p>Systematic review</p>	<p>Due to operationalization of staffing measures in different ways, direct comparisons between studies was difficult. Additionally, study bias was a risk and likely underestimated the effect of higher RN staffing.</p>	<p>Overall, findings are consistent with beneficial effect on preventing patient death and potentially improving patient outcomes. This review also evaluated the impact of other Staff (CNA, LPN, etc) on outcomes, but the evidence is not sufficient to support substitution of RNs by other grades of staff.</p>
<p>Leaster, Karen B. PhD, RN<sup>1</sup>*, Alken, Linda H. PhD, RN, FAAN<sup>1</sup>*, Sloane, Douglas M. PhD<sup>2</sup>*, French, Rachel BSN, RN<sup>1</sup>*, Anusiewicz, Colleen V. PhD, RN<sup>1</sup>*, Marti, Brendan PhD<sup>1</sup>, Renau, Iyanni MSF, Alexander, Maryann PhD, RN, FAAN<sup>1</sup>, MCHugh, Matthew D PhD, RN, FAAN<sup>1</sup>*, Is the Public's Interest? An Observational Study in New York State. <i>Medical Care</i> 59(5):p 444-450, May 2021.   DOI: 10.1097/MLR.0000000000001519</p>	<p>NY hospitals, med-surg</p>	<p>none identified</p>	<p>417,861 patients in 116 acute care general hospitals</p>	<p>cross-sectional analysis</p>	<p>Patient-to-nurse staffing, in-hospital mortality, LOS, 30-day readmission, estimated costs using Medicare cost-to-charge ratios.</p>	<p>Staffing ratios ranged from 4.3 to 10.5 patients per nurse with average 6.3. Each additional patient per nurse was associated with higher odds of in-patient mortality, longer LOS, higher odds of 30-day readmission. With a 4:1 ratio, an estimated 4370 lives could be saved and \$720,000 saved over 2 years.</p>

**From:** [Rosalee Agas Yuu](#)  
**To:** [lrbresearch](#)  
**Cc:** [Alex Miller](#); [Carol Philips](#)  
**Subject:** House Concurrent Resolution 187, H.D. 1, S.D. 1 (2024)  
**Date:** Sunday, June 23, 2024 1:00:13 PM  
**Attachments:** [Reference List--Safe Staffing.pdf](#)

You don't often get email from ragas-yuu@hinurse.org. [Learn why this is important](#)

**CAUTION:** This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Charlotte,

I have attached a Reference List that should help as you review the information related to best practices for nurse staffing in health care facilities. We appreciate the opportunity to provide you with information that may assist you and the Legislative Reference Bureau during this process.

As you know the nurses at Kapi'olani Medical Center for Women and Children felt the need to bring attention to this matter and walked a strike picket line for 7 days in January. 5 months later, we are still in negotiations to bargain language that would provide safe staffing for our patients who are also a big part of the community we live in. Queens Medical Center (which includes Queens at Punchbowl and Queens West), Wilcox Medical Center in Kauai and Kulana Malama (a long term care facility) are also in negotiations and there are also concerns regarding the staffing issues in these facilities. As we reached out and talked to more nurses, this staffing concern is most definitely a statewide issue as well as a nationwide problem, so the Hawai'i Nurses' Association would like to offer assistance if you need more information or need to survey our members for a fair representation of bedside nurses from various areas like long term facilities, dialysis centers, and acute care hospitals in the state of Hawaii.

Again thank you for the opportunity to share this information with you. I believe other entities will be sharing on our behalf with a phone call or email prior to June 30 deadline. If there is anything else we can assist you with, please do not hesitate to reach out.

Sincerely,

Rosalee Agas-Yuu  
President  
Hawai'i Nurses' Association  
OPEIU, Local 50

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UNIVERSITY  
of HAWAII®  
MĀNOA

June 26, 2024

Charlotte A. Carter-Yamauchi  
Director  
Legislative Reference Bureau  
State of Hawai'i  
State Capitol, Room 446  
415 S. Beretania Street  
Honolulu, HI 96813

via

Dear Ms. Carter-Yamauchi,

Thank you for the opportunity for the Nancy Atmospera-Walch School of Nursing to provide information in response to **House Concurrent Resolution (HCR) 187, H.D. 1, S.D. 1 (2024)**, to study best practices for nurse staffing. We have found that two states have mandated staffing requirements, one state has staffing ratio for intensive care units (ICU), and other states are considering legislation regarding staffing. The attached document highlights these states' policies and literature findings.

If you have any questions about our response to your request, please feel free to contact me at  
or

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Clementina D. Ceria-Ulep'.

Clementina D. Ceria-Ulep, PhD, RN  
Dean & The Queen's Health Systems Endowed Professor



# Nurse Staffing Ratios

As of now (June 2024), only two states (California and Oregon) have mandated staffing requirements throughout the state. Massachusetts has a staffing ratio for the Intensive Care Unit (ICU), but with some exceptions. Other states are considering legislation regarding staffing, but have not passed anything as of yet. The literature on the subject offers some insights as to important factors to keep in mind. The following is a summary of what we found, with sources cited throughout. *Please note that some of this information is a direct copy/paste from the source(s). Please consider this a starting point. Please do not publish or cite this document and instead cite the original sources, if needed.*

## Existing Policies

- Massachusetts: 1 patient per nurse in the ICU; “Exceptions may be made as long as nurses follow an acuity tool to determine that a patient is stable enough to be paired” (Davidson, 2023).
- California: Unit staffing ratio; “patients’ severity of illness must be documented using an acuity tool,” (Davidson, 2023). Table 1 specifies the ratios required in the state of California, by non-Kaiser hospitals and Kaiser.

**Table 1. California Nurse Staffing Ratios, Non-Kaiser and Kaiser (UNA/UHCP, 2008)**

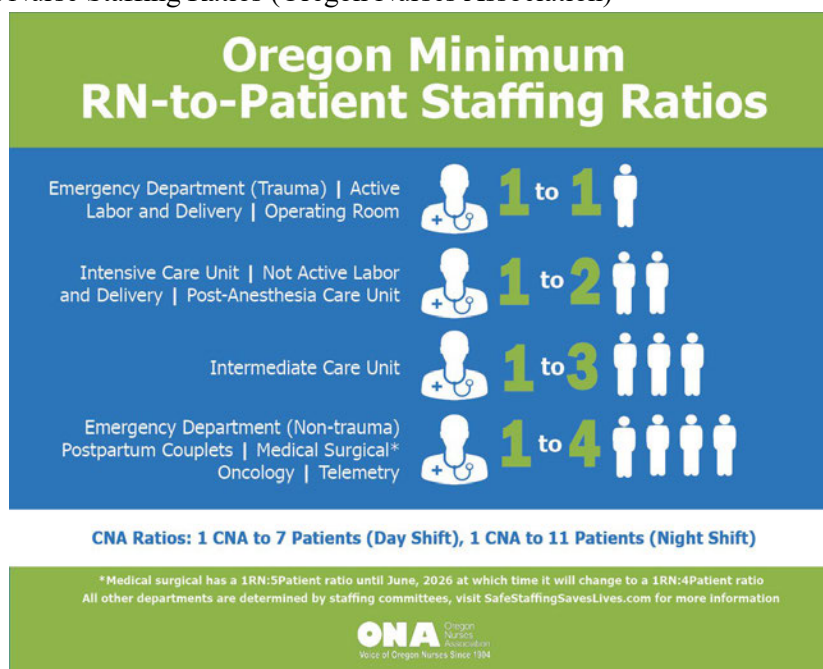
Hospital Unit	California Department of Health Services (for Non-Kaiser Hospitals)	UNAC-Kaiser Ratios
Critical Care/ICU	1:2	1:2
Neonatal ICU	1:2	1:2
Intermediate Care/Continuing Care Nursery	1:6	1:4
Perinatal Services		
Labor & Delivery	1:2	1:2
Postpartum	1:8 (4 couplets)	1:6 (3 couplets)
Well-Baby Nursery	1:8	1:6
Postanesthesia (PACU)	1:2	1:2
Emergency Department		
Trauma	1:1	1:1
Critical Care	1:2	1:2
Visits	1:4	1:3
Operating Room	1:1	1:1
Pediatrics	1:4	1:3
Stepdown	1:3	1:3
Telemetry	1:4	1:3



Medical/Surgical	1:5	1:4
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- Oregon: The law ([HB 2697](#)) mandates first-in-the-nation nurse-to-patient ratios for various acute care settings, establishing these ratios as minimum staffing requirements that facilities cannot exceed without consequences. Deviations from the ratios are allowed only through innovative care models approved every two years by the committee. (More information on HB2697 available [here](#).) These ratios are detailed in Figure 1.

Figure 1. Oregon Nurse Staffing Ratios (Oregon Nurses Association)



- Washington: Signed into law a safe staffing bill ([ESSB 5236](#)). Requires hospitals to consider hospital staffing and to have hospital staffing committees. Previously stated as “nurse staffing” and “nurse staffing committees,” the new bill “amends existing laws related to uninterrupted meal and rest breaks for acute care hospital employees (2019) and a prohibition on mandatory overtime for health care facility employees (2002).” (Washington State Hospital Association, 2023). Note: This bill is a compromise in regard to staffing, and there is no statewide nurse-to-patient ratio.
- Connecticut: “The state legislature's public health committee said it was open to "exploring" mandatory staffing ratios, although officials with the Connecticut Hospital Association openly oppose them,” (Gooch & Kayser, 2023).
- <https://www.trustednursestaffing.com/nurse-patient-ratios-by-state/> - rundown of state by state and their mandates (Trusted Nurse Staffing, 2024).
- Washington ESSB 5236 - Safe Staffing bill  
<https://lawfilesext.leg.wa.gov/biennium/2023-24/Pdf/Bills/Senate%20Passed%20Legislature/5236-S2.PL.pdf#page=1>

- Oregon HB2697  
<https://olis.oregonlegislature.gov/liz/2023R1/Measures/Overview/HB2697>  
<https://olis.oregonlegislature.gov/liz/2023R1/Downloads/MeasureDocument/HB2697/Enrolled>

#### **From the Literature:**

- This is a controversial topic (Griffiths & Dall’Ora, 2022; Kerfoot & Buerhouse, 2022; as cited in Delgado et al., 2024)
- Hospitals and unions tend to be split on whether mandated staffing ratios will resolve issues. Nationwide, hospital associations have expressed concerns that a one-size-fits-all figure would drive up operating costs, worsening the situation at financially struggling hospitals and leading to service cuts and closures. Meanwhile, unions like the MNA cite research suggesting staffing ratios lead to higher care quality. (Kayser, 2023)
- Delgado et al. (2024):
  - "unit-level ratio policy could contribute to increased staffing levels, shorter LOS, and reduced nurse attrition (p. 5).
  - Unit-level ratio policy would improve the current state of patients.
  - Decreased staffing in med-surg units currently staffed above the minimum could occur as an unintended consequence (suggestion to add an element to policy design that would staff based on patient acuity, increase staffing when there is a higher demand for patient care - as is done in California)
  - Policy-associated staffing levels would improve nurse satisfaction, however, mechanisms to achieve policy adherence, such as mandatory overtime, could mitigate this impact (p. 6)
  - Disagreements on impacts of short- and long-term costs
  - Health care teams: California’s ratio policy was associated with higher unlicensed assistive personnel staffing, even though the policy’s requirements applied only to licensed personnel (Han et al, 2021, as cited in Delgado et al., 2024, p. 6)
  - Big takeaway: Flexibility of unit-level ratios may offer more benefits than other policies, such as patient-level ratios.
- Laseter et al. (2024):
  - This study evaluated the effects of replacing RNs with lower-wage staff. It found that reducing the number of RNs (and replacing them with lower-wage staff, such as nurse's aides or LPNs) in order to keep nursing personnel hours the same, patients were negatively affected.
  - A 10 percentage-point reduction in RNs was associated with 7% higher odds of in-hospital death, 1% higher odds of readmission, 2% increase in expected days, and lower patient satisfaction. We estimate a 10 percentage-point reduction in RNs would result in 10,947 avoidable deaths annually and 5207 avoidable readmissions, which translates into roughly \$68.5 million in additional Medicare costs. Hospitals would forgo nearly \$3 billion in cost savings annually because of patients requiring longer stays.
  - Big Takeaway: Reducing the proportion of RNs in hospitals, even when total nursing personnel hours are kept the same, is likely to result in significant avoidable patient deaths, readmissions, longer lengths of stay, and decreased patient satisfaction, in

addition to excess Medicare costs and forgone cost savings to hospitals. Estimates represent only a 10 percentage-point dilution in skill mix; however, the team nursing model includes much larger reductions of 40–50 percentage-points—the human and economic consequences of which could be substantial.

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# 2025 LEGISLATIVE SESSION: MEASURE TRACKING REPORT

<a href="#">SB8</a>	Jury Duty; Advance Practice Registered Nurses; Exemption	RELATING TO JURY DUTY.	Allows an advance practice registered nurse to claim exemption from service as a juror.	RELATING TO JURY DUTY.	S 1/29/2025: The committee(s) on HHS recommend(s) that the measure be PASSED, WITH AMENDMENTS. The votes in HHS were as follows: 4 Aye(s); Senator(s) San Buenaventura, Aquino, Hashimoto, Fevella; Aye(s) with reservations: none; 0 No(es); none; and 1 Excused: Senator(s) Keohokalole.	INOUYE, CHANG, HASHIMOTO, MCKELVEY, Fevella, San Buenaventura	HHS, JDC	
<a href="#">SB119</a>	Nursing; UH Maui College; BS Nursing Established; Appropriation	RELATING TO NURSING.	Appropriates funds to establish the Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree program at the University of Hawaii Maui College. Appropriates funds.	RELATING TO NURSING.	S 1/16/2025: Referred to HRE, WAM.	HASHIMOTO, DECOITE, FEVELLA, KIM, MCKELVEY	HRE, WAM	HB617
<a href="#">SB213</a>	Abortion Survivor; Infant Born Alive; Penalties	RELATING TO CHILDREN.	Requires medically appropriate and reasonable life-saving and life-sustaining medical care and treatment for all infants born alive. Establishes civil and criminal penalties.	RELATING TO CHILDREN.	S 1/17/2025: Referred to HHS, JDC/WAM.	FEVELLA, DECORTE, GABBARD	HHS, JDC/WAM	
<a href="#">SB296</a>	Minors; Consent; Medical Care; Sexual Offenses; DHS; Hawaii Youth Correctional Facilities; Minor Offenders	RELATING TO MINORS.	Authorizes a physician, upon consultation with a minor patient who indicates that the minor was the victim of a sexual offense, with the consent of the minor patient, to perform customary and necessary examinations to obtain evidence of the sexual offense and may prescribe for and treat the patient for any immediate condition caused by the sexual offense. Provides that the consent of the parent, parents, or legal guardian of a minor offender who has been committed to the Hawaii youth correctional facilities is not necessary in order to authorize hospital, medical, mental health, dental, emergency health, or emergency surgical care.	RELATING TO MINORS.	S 1/31/2025: The committee(s) on HHS/PSM has scheduled a public hearing on 02-07-25 3:10PM; Conference Room 225 & Videoconference.	SAN BUENAVENTURA, CHANG, DECOITE, FEVELLA, MCKELVEY, MORIWAKI, RICHARDS	HHS/PSM, WAM	HB731
<a href="#">SB305</a>	Medical Providers; Social Security Disability Benefits; Medical Records; Requests; Reasonable Fees; Timely Response; Penalties	RELATING TO MEDICAL RECORDS.	Establishes fees that medical providers may charge for requests for a patient's medical records from the patient's family member, caregiver, or representative. Requires medical providers to respond to requests in a timely manner. Establishes penalties.	RELATING TO MEDICAL RECORDS.	S 1/21/2025: Referred to HHS, JDC.	RHOADS, MCKELVEY, SAN BUENAVENTURA	HHS, JDC	HB248
<a href="#">SB318</a>	DCCA; Genetic Information; Genetic Testing; Privacy; Rules	RELATING TO GENETIC INFORMATION.	Requires the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs to adopt rules establishing privacy requirements for direct-to-consumer genetic testing in the State. Requires the Department's rules to specify whether consumers' genetic information may be used for purposes of investigative genetic genealogy.	RELATING TO GENETIC INFORMATION.	S 1/28/2025: The committee on CPN deferred the measure.	SAN BUENAVENTURA, AQUINO, CHANG, FEVELLA, HASHIMOTO, LEE, C., MCKELVEY, RHOADS	CPN, JDC	
<a href="#">SB368</a>	Health Care Providers; Medical Records; Billing Records; Record Request; Response Timeframe; Account Credit; Notice to Patient; Penalties	RELATING TO MEDICAL RECORDS.	Requires health care providers to provide patients with copies of billing records within ten working days of a request from the patient and provide written notice to patients if there is a credit on the patient's account. Clarifies that health care providers must respond to medical record requests from patients in a timely manner pursuant to federal regulations, with exceptions. Establishes penalties for violations.	RELATING TO MEDICAL RECORDS.	S 1/21/2025: Referred to HHS, JDC.	FUKUNAGA, AQUINO, CHANG, FEVELLA, GABBARD, KIDANI, RHOADS, Elefante	HHS, JDC	

# 2025 LEGISLATIVE SESSION: MEASURE TRACKING REPORT

<p><a href="#">SB424</a></p>	<p>DLIR; Health; Hospitals; Work Environment; Registered Nurses; Minimum Staffing Standard; Staffing Committee; Staffing Plan; Complaints; Penalties; Appeals; Appropriations</p>	<p>RELATING TO LABOR STANDARDS AT HEALTH CARE FACILITIES.</p>	<p>Establish certain minimum registered nurse-to-patient ratios for hospitals. Establishes a process to obtain a variance from the minimum registered nurse staffing standards. Requires hospitals to establish hospital registered nurse staffing committees by 9/1/2025 to develop and adopt registered nurse staffing plans. Requires the staffing committees to submit a charter to the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations. Beginning 7/1/2026, requires hospitals to submit their registered nurse staffing plan on an annual basis, and implement the staffing plan. Establishes a complaint and appeals process and penalties. Appropriates funds.</p>	<p>RELATING TO LABOR STANDARDS AT HEALTH CARE FACILITIES.</p>	<p>S 1/21/2025: Referred to LBT/HHS, WAM/JDC.</p>	<p>AQUINO</p>	<p>LBT/HHS, WAM/JDC</p>
<p><a href="#">SB482</a></p>	<p>Cognitive Assessments; Medicare Beneficiaries; Annual Wellness Visits; Alzheimer's Disease and Related Dementias; Reporting Requirements; Executive Office on Aging; Appropriation</p>	<p>RELATING TO COGNITIVE ASSESSMENTS.</p>	<p>Requires all health care providers who accept Medicare to provide a cognitive assessment as part of the Medicare Part B annual wellness visit for Medicare beneficiaries sixty-five years of age or older, with certain exceptions. Requires health care providers to submit certain information to the Executive Office on Aging and the Executive Office on Aging to report de-identified aggregated data to the Legislature on an annual basis. Appropriates funds. Effective 1/1/2026.</p>	<p>RELATING TO COGNITIVE ASSESSMENTS.</p>	<p>S 1/21/2025: Referred to HHS, WAM/CPN.</p>	<p>SAN BUENAVENTURA, Fukunaga, Moriwaki</p>	<p>HHS, WAM/CPN HB700</p>
<p><a href="#">SB947</a></p>	<p>Birth Certificates; Vital Statistics; Birth Registrants; Advanced Practice Registered Nurses</p>	<p>RELATING TO BIRTH CERTIFICATES.</p>	<p>Expands the types of health care providers who can submit an affidavit for a new certificate of birth for certain birth registrants.</p>	<p>RELATING TO BIRTH CERTIFICATES.</p>	<p>S 1/23/2025: Referred to HHS, JDC.</p>	<p>CHANG</p>	<p>HHS, JDC HB1452</p>
<p><a href="#">SB1150</a></p>	<p>Gender-Affirming Health Care Services; Protections; Child Custody</p>	<p>RELATING TO HEALTH CARE.</p>	<p>Expands the protections established under Act 2, SLH 2023, to include gender-affirming health care services. Clarifies jurisdiction under the Uniform Child-Custody Jurisdiction and Enforcement Act for cases involving children who obtain gender-affirming health care services.</p>	<p>RELATING TO HEALTH CARE.</p>	<p>S 1/23/2025: Referred to HHS/CPN, JDC/WAM.</p>	<p>LEE, C., HASHIMOTO</p>	<p>HHS/CPN, JDC/WAM HB615</p>
<p><a href="#">SB1203</a></p>	<p>Cognitive Assessments; Medicare Beneficiaries; Annual Wellness Visits; Alzheimer's Disease and Related Dementias; Reporting Requirements; Executive Office on Aging; Appropriation (\$)</p>	<p>RELATING TO COGNITIVE ASSESSMENTS</p>	<p>Requires all health care providers who accept Medicare to provide a cognitive assessment as part of the Medicare Part B annual wellness visit for Medicare beneficiaries sixty-five years of age or older, with certain exceptions. Requires health care providers to submit certain information to the Executive Office on Aging and the Executive Office on Aging to report de-identified aggregated data to the Legislature on an annual basis. Appropriates funds. Effective 1/1/2026.</p>	<p>RELATING TO COGNITIVE ASSESSMENTS</p>	<p>S 1/27/2025: Referred to HHS/CPN, WAM.</p>	<p>KIM, CHANG, DECOITE, FEVELLA, HASHIMOTO, KANUHA, KIDANI, MCKELVEY, RHOADS, Moriwaki, San Buenaventura</p>	<p>HHS/CPN, WAM</p>

# 2025 LEGISLATIVE SESSION: MEASURE TRACKING REPORT

<a href="#">SB1242</a>	DOH; Nurses; Nursing Students; Recertification; Scholarships; Reports; Appropriations	RELATING TO NURSES.	Requires and appropriates moneys for the establishment of a 5-year nurse recertification pilot program to be administered by the Department of Health. Requires reports to the Legislature. Appropriates moneys for the Department of Health to award scholarships to eligible nursing students who agree to teach nursing in Hawaii after graduating.	RELATING TO NURSES.	S 1/28/2025: The committee(s) on HHS has scheduled a public hearing on 01-31-25 1:34PM; Conference Room 225 & Videoconference.	SAN BUENAVENTURA	HHS, WAM	
<a href="#">SB1373</a>	DCCA; Registered Sex Offenders; Professional Licenses; Automatic Revocation and Denial of Application to Renew, Restore, or Reinstatement	RELATING TO ADMINISTRATIVE LICENSURE ACTIONS AGAINST SEX OFFENDERS.	Authorizes the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs and certain licensing boards to automatically revoke and refuse to renew, restore, or reinstate the professional licenses of registered sex offenders.	RELATING TO ADMINISTRATIVE LICENSURE ACTIONS AGAINST SEX OFFENDERS.	S 1/30/2025: The committee(s) on CPN has scheduled a public hearing on 02-04-25 9:35AM; Conference Room 229 & Videoconference.	KOUCHI (Introduced by request of another party)	CPN, JDC	HB1054
<a href="#">SB1596</a>	DOH; National Council Licensure Examination (NCLEX) for Nurses; Pearson VUE Authorized Test Center; Possible Test Sites; Identification; County of Hawaii; County of Kauai; County of Maui; Report	RELATING TO NURSING.	Requires the Department of Health to identify one facility in each of the counties of Hawaii, Kauai, and Maui that has the capability to establish a Pearson VUE Authorized Test Center as a test site to administer a NCLEX for nurses; equip each facility identified with the technical and facility requirements necessary for a Pearson VUE Authorized Test Center; and submit an application for each facility to Pearson Education, Inc. to be authorized and contracted as a Pearson VUE Authorized Test Center. Requires a report to the Legislature.	RELATING TO NURSING.	S 1/27/2025: Referred to HHS, WAM.	INOUE	HHS, WAM	
<a href="#">HB62</a>	Healthcare Facilities; Hospitals; Care Homes; Nurses; Ratios	RELATING TO HEALTHCARE FACILITY NURSE STAFFING.	Implements various nurse-to-patient ratios at hospitals and care homes. Requires the Department of Health to audit healthcare facility compliance.	RELATING TO HEALTHCARE FACILITY NURSE STAFFING.	H 1/21/2025: Referred to HLT, LAB, FIN, referral sheet 1	SOUZA, FERRUSO, POEPOE	HLT, LAB, FIN	
<a href="#">HB248</a>	Medical Providers; Social Security Disability Benefits; Medical Records; Requests; Reasonable Fees; Timely Response; Penalties	RELATING TO MEDICAL RECORDS.	Establishes fees that medical providers may charge for requests for a patient's medical records from the patient's family member, caregiver, or representative. Requires medical providers to respond to requests in a timely manner. Establishes penalties.	RELATING TO MEDICAL RECORDS.	H 1/21/2025: Referred to HLT, JHA, referral sheet 1	MARTEN, AMATO, BELATTI, CHUN, IWAMOTO, KAPELA, KITAGAWA, MATAYOSHI, TAKAYAMA, TAKENOUCI, TODD	HLT, JHA	SB305
<a href="#">HB303</a> <a href="#">HD1</a>	Healthcare Preceptor Tax Credit; Dietitians; Physician Assistants; Social Workers; Residency Programs; Preceptor Credit Assurance Committee; Director of Health	RELATING TO HEALTHCARE PRECEPTORS.	Expands the definitions of "preceptor" and "volunteer-based supervised clinical training rotation" to improve accessibility for providers to receive income tax credits for acting as preceptors, including removing "primary care" from the criteria to qualify as a preceptor. Adds dietitians, physician assistants, and social workers to the list of preceptors and eligible students. Expands eligibility for the tax credit to include accredited residency programs that require preceptor support. Adds the Director of Health and residency programs with eligible students to the Preceptor Credit Assurance Committee. Applies to taxable years beginning after 12/31/2025. Effective 7/1/3000. (HD1)	RELATING TO HEALTHCARE PRECEPTORS.	H 1/31/2025: Reported from HLT (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 26) as amended in HD 1, recommending passage on Second Reading and referral to ECD.	TAKAYAMA, KITAGAWA, MARTEN, MIYAKE, OLDS, PIERICK, SAYAMA, TODD	HLT, ECD, FIN	SB1070

# 2025 LEGISLATIVE SESSION: MEASURE TRACKING REPORT

<a href="#">HB311</a>	General Excise Tax; Exemptions; Medical Services; Dental	RELATING TO GENERAL EXCISE TAX EXEMPTION.	Establishes general excise tax exemptions for various medical services, including dental services.	RELATING TO GENERAL EXCISE TAX EXEMPTION.	H 1/21/2025: Referred to HLT, ECD, FIN, referral sheet 1	GARCIA, ALCOS, IWAMOTO, KILA, LAMOSAO, PIERICK, SHIMIZU, WARD, Reyes Oda	HLT, ECD, FIN	SB1241
<a href="#">HB897</a>	State Board of Nursing; Nurse Licensure Compact; Registered Nurses; Licensed Practical Nurses; Fees	RELATING TO THE NURSE LICENSURE COMPACT.	Authorizes the Governor to enter the State into a multistate Nurse Licensure Compact that will allow a nurse who is licensed by a home state to practice under a multistate licensure privilege in each party state. Beginning 7/1/20 , requires each person who holds a multistate nurse license issued by another state and is employed by a health care facility to complete annual demographic data surveys. Authorizes the State Board of Nursing to charge different fees for registered nurses and licensed practical nurses who hold a multistate license issued by the State. Provides that the Nurse Licensure Compact shall become effective and binding in the State two years after the Act takes effect.	RELATING TO THE NURSE LICENSURE COMPACT.	H 1/23/2025: Referred to HLT/LAB, CPC, FIN, referral sheet 3	PIERICK	HLT/LAB, CPC, FIN	
<a href="#">HB1244</a>	DLIR; Registered Nurses; Hospitals; Staffing Requirements	RELATING TO LABOR STANDARDS AT HEALTH CARE FACILITIES.	Establishes certain minimum registered nurse-to-patient staffing requirements for hospitals. No later than 9/1/2025, requires hospitals to create hospital registered nurse staffing committees. Beginning 7/1/2026, requires hospitals to implement registered nurse staffing plans. Appropriates funds.	RELATING TO LABOR STANDARDS AT HEALTH CARE FACILITIES.	H 1/27/2025: Referred to HLT/LAB, CPC, FIN, referral sheet 4	QUINLAN, AMATO, GARCIA, GRANDINETTI, KAPELA, LA CHICA, LAMOSAO, LOWEN, MATSUMOTO, PERRUSO, POEPOE, REYES ODA, SOUZA, TAM	HLT/LAB, CPC, FIN	