

2022 Regular Session

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 129

BY SENATOR HEWITT

NURSES. Requests the Nursing Supply and Demand Council to study and make recommendations to improve statewide nurse retention in response to the nursing workforce shortage.

1 A RESOLUTION

2 To urge and request the Nursing Supply and Demand Council to study and make  
3 recommendations to improve statewide nurse retention in response to the nursing  
4 workforce shortage.

5 WHEREAS, the United States is in the midst of a critical nurse shortage expected  
6 to continue through the year 2030 and its impact is far-reaching; and

7 WHEREAS, according to the Louisiana State Board of Nursing's 2020 annual report,  
8 over nine thousand three hundred registered nurses currently working and residing in  
9 Louisiana indicated that they were planning to leave their current nursing position; and

10 WHEREAS, according to a recent Louisiana Center for Nursing survey, in 2018 the  
11 median turnover rate for registered nurses employed by Louisiana hospitals was nineteen  
12 percent compared to a median turnover rate of almost fourteen percent in 2014 and  
13 seventeen percent in 2010; and

14 WHEREAS, according to the Louisiana Health Works Commission's 2021 annual  
15 report, in 2020 there were sixty-six thousand seventy-six registered nurses holding an active  
16 license in Louisiana compared to sixty-nine thousand six hundred forty-seven in 2019, which  
17 represents a five percent decrease in licensed registered nurses; and

18 WHEREAS, data on job postings for healthcare occupations in Louisiana during the

1 past five years shows that registered nurses account for the greatest labor shortage, with an  
2 average of one hundred sixty-four unique job postings per month; and

3 WHEREAS, labor supply estimates for the year 2030 indicate that the nurse shortage  
4 will continue unabated if interventions are not undertaken and it is estimated that as many  
5 as forty-two percent of the total nursing positions will go unfilled; and

6 WHEREAS, the COVID-19 pandemic has left lasting impressions on the healthcare  
7 workforce, including an impact on nurse wellbeing which may negatively influence nurse  
8 retention if not addressed; and

9 WHEREAS, pursuant to R.S. 37:1007, the Nursing Supply and Demand Council is  
10 charged with studying all aspects of the supply of and demand for nurses; and

11 WHEREAS, because Louisiana has a pronounced shortage of nurses which has been  
12 exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic, fostering a greater supply of nurses is a vital  
13 public health priority of this state.

14 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana  
15 does hereby urge and request the Nursing Supply and Demand Council to study and make  
16 recommendations to improve statewide nurse retention in response to the nursing workforce  
17 shortage.

18 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the council may do any of the following:

19 (1) Review pertinent statewide studies to identify actionable recommendations  
20 regarding the retention of nurses in Louisiana.

21 (2) Research national practices regarding statewide nurse retention initiatives and  
22 nurse wellbeing.

23 (3) Consult with other interested stakeholders who have experience in nurse  
24 retention initiatives or nurse wellbeing.

25 (4) Conduct surveys of licensed nurses with the assistance of the Louisiana State  
26 Board of Nursing and the Louisiana State Board of Practical Nurse Examiners.

27 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the council shall make a written report of its  
28 findings and recommendations to the Senate and House committees on health and welfare  
29 no later than February 1, 2023.

30 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the

1 Board of Regents.

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The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Brandi Cannon.

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SR 129 Original

DIGEST  
2022 Regular Session

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