



103RD GENERAL ASSEMBLY

State of Illinois

2023 and 2024

HB1615

Introduced 2/1/2023, by Rep. Maura Hirschauer

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

225 ILCS 65/75-10

was 225 ILCS 65/17-10

Amends the Nurse Practice Act. Provides legislative findings. Provides that a primary goal of the Illinois Nursing Workforce Center is to develop a strategic plan for nursing workforce in the State by selecting priorities to be addressed, including: (1) for license renewals beginning in 2024 and each renewal thereafter, to develop and require the completion of a supply survey of all licensed nurses at initial licensure and each license renewal thereafter; and (2) no later than 2026, to develop a nurse demand and employer survey to be collected biennially.

LRB103 25827 AMQ 52178 b

1 AN ACT concerning regulation.

2 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,**
3 **represented in the General Assembly:**

4 Section 1. Legislative findings. The General Assembly
5 recognizes:

6 (1) There is a growing shortage of nurses working in
7 Illinois health care facilities, which is most profound in
8 Southern Illinois.

9 (2) Nurse employers, including hospitals and long-term
10 care facilities, cannot hire the number of nurses they need to
11 provide quality nursing care.

12 (3) The purpose of the Illinois Nursing Workforce Center
13 is to address issues of supply and demand in the nursing
14 profession, including issues of recruitment, retention, and
15 utilization of nurse manpower resources.

16 (4) The Center reports that the Department of Financial
17 and Professional Regulation provides nursing licenses, as of
18 June 2022, in the following amounts: 17,931 advanced practice
19 registered nurse licenses; 200,600 registered nurse licenses;
20 and 25,978 licensed practical nurse licenses.

21 (5) The number of licenses does not equate to the number of
22 nurses currently in the workforce in Illinois as many nurses
23 renew their licenses even after retirement.

24 (6) There have been nursing surveys, but they have been

1 voluntary. For instance, in 2020, only 22% of nurses responded
2 to surveys.

3 (7) Strategies and changes are necessary to solving the
4 nursing shortage. There needs to be accurate and complete
5 data.

6 (8) Illinois must know whether there are regional
7 shortages of nurses, shortages of nurses in specialty areas,
8 or impediments to entering the nursing profession. A required
9 survey will address these and other nurse shortage issues.

10 Section 5. The Nurse Practice Act is amended by changing
11 Section 75-10 as follows:

12 (225 ILCS 65/75-10) (was 225 ILCS 65/17-10)

13 (Section scheduled to be repealed on January 1, 2028)

14 Sec. 75-10. Illinois Nursing Workforce Center. The purpose
15 of the Illinois Nursing Workforce Center to address issues of
16 supply and demand in the nursing profession, including issues
17 of recruitment, retention, and utilization of nurse manpower
18 resources. The General Assembly finds that the Center will
19 enhance the access to and delivery of quality health care
20 services by providing an ongoing strategy for the allocation
21 of the State's resources directed towards nursing. Each of the
22 following objectives shall serve as the primary goals for the
23 Center:

24 (1) To develop a strategic plan for nursing workforce

1 in the State by selecting priorities to be addressed,
2 including: ~~manpower in Illinois by selecting priorities~~
3 ~~that must be addressed.~~

4 (A) For license renewals beginning in 2024 and
5 each renewal thereafter, to develop and require the
6 completion of a supply survey of all licensed nurses,
7 including licensed practical nurses, registered
8 nurses, and advanced practice registered nurses, at
9 initial licensure and each license renewal thereafter.
10 The survey shall use the National Forum of State
11 Nursing Workforce Centers Minimum Nurse Supply
12 Dataset. The Center shall compile, process, and
13 evaluate the survey findings and report to the
14 Governor, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker
15 of the House of Representatives with recommendations.

16 (B) No later than 2026, to develop a nurse demand
17 and employer survey to be collected biennially. The
18 survey shall use the National Forum of State Nursing
19 Workforce Centers Minimum Nurse Demand Dataset. The
20 Center shall compile, process, and evaluate the survey
21 findings and report to the Governor, the President of
22 the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of
23 Representatives with recommendations.

24 (2) To convene various groups of representatives of
25 nurses, other health care providers, businesses and
26 industries, consumers, legislators, and educators to:

1 (A) review and comment on data analysis prepared
2 by ~~for~~ the Center; and

3 (B) recommend systemic changes, including
4 strategies for implementation of recommended changes.

5 (3) To enhance and promote recognition, reward, and
6 renewal activities for nurses in the State ~~Illinois~~ by:

7 (A) proposing and creating reward, recognition,
8 and renewal activities for nursing; and

9 (B) promoting positive media and ~~positive~~
10 image-building efforts for nursing.

11 (Source: P.A. 100-513, eff. 1-1-18.)