

HR 4316

Nurse Staffing Standards for Patient Safety and Quality Care Act of 2004

Congress: 108 (2003–2005, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Health

Introduced: May 6, 2004

Current Status: Referred to the Subcommittee on Health.

Latest Action: Referred to the Subcommittee on Health. (May 21, 2004)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/108th-congress/house-bill/4316>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Schakowsky, Janice D. [D-IL-9]

Party: Democratic • **State:** IL • **Chamber:** House

Cosponsors (31 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Del. Norton, Eleanor Holmes [D-DC-At Large]	D · DC		May 6, 2004
Rep. Andrews, Robert E. [D-NJ-1]	D · NJ		May 6, 2004
Rep. Conyers, John, Jr. [D-MI-14]	D · MI		May 6, 2004
Rep. DeLauro, Rosa L. [D-CT-3]	D · CT		May 6, 2004
Rep. Deutsch, Peter [D-FL-20]	D · FL		May 6, 2004
Rep. Filner, Bob [D-CA-51]	D · CA		May 6, 2004
Rep. Frost, Martin [D-TX-24]	D · TX		May 6, 2004
Rep. Hoeffel, Joseph M. [D-PA-13]	D · PA		May 6, 2004
Rep. Holden, Tim [D-PA-17]	D · PA		May 6, 2004
Rep. Johnson, Eddie Bernice [D-TX-30]	D · TX		May 6, 2004
Rep. McCarthy, Carolyn [D-NY-4]	D · NY		May 6, 2004
Rep. Meek, Kendrick B. [D-FL-17]	D · FL		May 6, 2004
Rep. Nadler, Jerrold [D-NY-8]	D · NY		May 6, 2004
Rep. Roybal-Allard, Lucille [D-CA-34]	D · CA		May 6, 2004
Rep. Sánchez, Linda T. [D-CA-39]	D · CA		May 6, 2004
Rep. Visclosky, Peter J. [D-IN-1]	D · IN		May 6, 2004
Rep. Brady, Robert A. [D-PA-1]	D · PA		May 20, 2004
Rep. Owens, Major R. [D-NY-11]	D · NY		May 20, 2004
Rep. Rangel, Charles B. [D-NY-15]	D · NY		May 20, 2004
Rep. Sanders, Bernard [I-VT-At Large]	I · VT		May 20, 2004
Rep. Baldwin, Tammy [D-WI-2]	D · WI		Jun 17, 2004
Rep. Davis, Lincoln [D-TN-4]	D · TN		Jun 17, 2004
Rep. Gordon, Bart [D-TN-6]	D · TN		Jun 17, 2004
Rep. Hinchey, Maurice D. [D-NY-22]	D · NY		Jun 17, 2004
Rep. Kaptur, Marcy [D-OH-9]	D · OH		Jun 17, 2004
Rep. Kucinich, Dennis J. [D-OH-10]	D · OH		Jun 17, 2004
Del. Christensen, Donna M. [D-VI-At Large]	D · VI		Jul 19, 2004
Rep. Oberstar, James L. [D-MN-8]	D · MN		Jul 19, 2004
Rep. Sanchez, Loretta [D-CA-47]	D · CA		Jul 19, 2004
Rep. Moran, James P. [D-VA-8]	D · VA		Jul 22, 2004
Rep. Stark, Fortney Pete [D-CA-13]	D · CA		Sep 7, 2004

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Energy and Commerce Committee	House	Referred to	May 21, 2004
Ways and Means Committee	House	Referred to	May 11, 2004

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Health

Related Bills

No related bills are listed.

Summary (as of May 6, 2004)

Nurse Staffing Standards for Patient Safety and Quality Care Act of 2004 - Amends the Public Health Service Act to require hospitals to implement staffing plans that meet specified ratios for direct care registered nurse-to-patient staffing levels for each unit and other requirements, including for receiving input from nurses. Allows the Secretary of Health and Human Services to further limit such ratios as needed to ensure public safety and to establish ratios for units not specified. Provides an exception to such staffing requirements for a declared state of emergency. Requires hospitals to provide the Secretary with their staffing plan and annual updates. Requires the Secretary to conduct audits to ensure the implementation of adequate staffing plans.

Requires the Secretary: (1) acting through the Director of the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, to complete a study of licensed practical nurse staffing and its effects on patient care in hospitals; and (2) to establish requirements for hospitals based on the outcome of the study.

Requires the Secretary to adjust payments to cover additional Medicare costs that are attributable to this Act. Requires the Medicare Payment Advisory Commission to submit to Congress and the Secretary a report estimating total costs and savings attributable to compliance with nurse staffing requirements.

Provides nurses with the right to refuse to accept assignments that would violate staffing requirements or for which they are not prepared. Prohibits retaliation by hospitals for such refusals or for reporting violations of staffing requirements.

Actions Timeline

- **May 21, 2004:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Health.
- **May 11, 2004:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Health.
- **May 6, 2004:** Introduced in House
- **May 6, 2004:** Introduced in House
- **May 6, 2004:** Referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.
- **May 6, 2004:** Referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.
- **May 6, 2004:** Referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.