

HR 2581

Nurse Staffing Standards for Hospital Patient Safety and Quality Care Act of 2019

Congress: 116 (2019–2021, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Health

Introduced: May 8, 2019

Current Status: Referred to the Subcommittee on Health.

Latest Action: Referred to the Subcommittee on Health. (May 9, 2019)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/house-bill/2581>

Sponsor

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

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

Cosponsors (56 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Del. Norton, Eleanor Holmes [D-DC-At Large]	D · DC		May 8, 2019
Rep. Blumenauer, Earl [D-OR-3]	D · OR		May 8, 2019
Rep. Bonamici, Suzanne [D-OR-1]	D · OR		May 8, 2019
Rep. Brownley, Julia [D-CA-26]	D · CA		May 8, 2019
Rep. Clarke, Yvette D. [D-NY-9]	D · NY		May 8, 2019
Rep. Cohen, Steve [D-TN-9]	D · TN		May 8, 2019
Rep. Davis, Danny K. [D-IL-7]	D · IL		May 8, 2019
Rep. DeFazio, Peter A. [D-OR-4]	D · OR		May 8, 2019
Rep. DeLauro, Rosa L. [D-CT-3]	D · CT		May 8, 2019
Rep. Dingell, Debbie [D-MI-12]	D · MI		May 8, 2019
Rep. Gabbard, Tulsi [D-HI-2]	D · HI		May 8, 2019
Rep. Jayapal, Pramila [D-WA-7]	D · WA		May 8, 2019
Rep. Kelly, Robin L. [D-IL-2]	D · IL		May 8, 2019
Rep. Khanna, Ro [D-CA-17]	D · CA		May 8, 2019
Rep. Lee, Barbara [D-CA-13]	D · CA		May 8, 2019
Rep. Lofgren, Zoe [D-CA-19]	D · CA		May 8, 2019
Rep. McCollum, Betty [D-MN-4]	D · MN		May 8, 2019
Rep. Moore, Gwen [D-WI-4]	D · WI		May 8, 2019
Rep. Nadler, Jerrold [D-NY-10]	D · NY		May 8, 2019
Rep. Pocan, Mark [D-WI-2]	D · WI		May 8, 2019
Rep. Raskin, Jamie [D-MD-8]	D · MD		May 8, 2019
Rep. Rush, Bobby L. [D-IL-1]	D · IL		May 8, 2019
Rep. Sherman, Brad [D-CA-30]	D · CA		May 8, 2019
Rep. Takano, Mark [D-CA-41]	D · CA		May 8, 2019
Rep. Velazquez, Nydia M. [D-NY-7]	D · NY		May 8, 2019
Rep. Wilson, Frederica S. [D-FL-24]	D · FL		May 8, 2019
Rep. Doggett, Lloyd [D-TX-35]	D · TX		May 14, 2019
Rep. Haaland, Debra A. [D-NM-1]	D · NM		May 14, 2019
Rep. McGovern, James P. [D-MA-2]	D · MA		May 14, 2019
Rep. Ryan, Tim [D-OH-13]	D · OH		May 14, 2019
Rep. Garamendi, John [D-CA-3]	D · CA		May 16, 2019
Rep. Kaptur, Marcy [D-OH-9]	D · OH		May 16, 2019
Rep. Pingree, Chellie [D-ME-1]	D · ME		May 16, 2019
Rep. Titus, Dina [D-NV-1]	D · NV		May 21, 2019
Rep. Chu, Judy [D-CA-27]	D · CA		Jun 6, 2019
Rep. Gomez, Jimmy [D-CA-34]	D · CA		Jun 6, 2019
Rep. Grijalva, Raúl M. [D-AZ-3]	D · AZ		Jun 26, 2019
Rep. Jackson Lee, Sheila [D-TX-18]	D · TX		Jun 26, 2019
Rep. Huffman, Jared [D-CA-2]	D · CA		Sep 6, 2019
Rep. Carson, Andre [D-IN-7]	D · IN		Sep 26, 2019
Rep. Lowenthal, Alan S. [D-CA-47]	D · CA		Oct 22, 2019

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Tlaib, Rashida [D-MI-13]	D · MI		Oct 28, 2019
Rep. Garcia, Jesus G. "Chuy" [D-IL-4]	D · IL		Nov 1, 2019
Rep. Ocasio-Cortez, Alexandria [D-NY-14]	D · NY		Nov 1, 2019
Rep. Omar, Ilhan [D-MN-5]	D · MN		Nov 1, 2019
Rep. Hayes, Jahana [D-CT-5]	D · CT		Nov 15, 2019
Rep. Watson Coleman, Bonnie [D-NJ-12]	D · NJ		Jan 7, 2020
Rep. Meng, Grace [D-NY-6]	D · NY		Jan 27, 2020
Rep. Levin, Andy [D-MI-9]	D · MI		Feb 7, 2020
Rep. Beatty, Joyce [D-OH-3]	D · OH		Feb 13, 2020
Rep. Higgins, Brian [D-NY-26]	D · NY		Feb 13, 2020
Rep. Torres, Norma J. [D-CA-35]	D · CA		Feb 13, 2020
Rep. Maloney, Carolyn B. [D-NY-12]	D · NY		Feb 21, 2020
Rep. Lynch, Stephen F. [D-MA-8]	D · MA		Jun 18, 2020
Rep. Porter, Katie [D-CA-45]	D · CA		Sep 11, 2020
Rep. Escobar, Veronica [D-TX-16]	D · TX		Oct 23, 2020

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Energy and Commerce Committee	House	Referred to	May 9, 2019
Ways and Means Committee	House	Referred To	May 8, 2019

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Health

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
116 S 1357	Identical bill	May 8, 2019: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

Nurse Staffing Standards for Patient Safety and Quality Care Act of 2019

This bill requires hospitals to implement and submit to the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) a staffing plan that complies with specified minimum nurse-to-patient ratios by unit. Hospitals must post a notice regarding nurse-to-patient ratios in each unit and maintain records of actual ratios for each shift in each unit. The bill also requires hospitals to follow certain procedures regarding how ratios are determined and other staff are prohibited from performing nurse functions unless specifically authorized within a state's scope of practice rules, among other requirements.

HHS must adjust Medicare payments to hospitals to cover additional costs attributable to compliance with these ratios.

Nurses may object to, or refuse to participate in, an assignment if it would violate minimum ratios or if they are not prepared by education or experience to fulfill the assignment without compromising the safety of a patient or jeopardizing their nurse's license. Hospitals may not (1) take adverse actions against a nurse based on the nurse's reasonable refusal to accept an assignment; or (2) discriminate against individuals for good faith complaints relating to the care, services, or conditions of the hospital or related facilities. HHS may impose civil monetary penalties on hospitals violating the ratio requirements and must publish the names of such hospitals.

The bill provides stipends to the nurse workforce loan repayment and scholarship program and expands the nurse retention grant program to include nurse preceptorship and mentorship projects.

Actions Timeline

- **May 9, 2019:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Health.
- **May 8, 2019:** Introduced in House
- **May 8, 2019:** 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.