

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 23

BY BOLKCOM

A Resolution requesting the legislative council to authorize an interim study committee to review the nurse staffing needs of the hospitals in this state.

WHEREAS, the increasing acuity level of patients in hospitals, the decreasing average length of patient stay, and the use of new medical technologies have all led to increases in the amount of care required for patients while in a hospital; and

WHEREAS, there is a persistent shortage in the number of qualified nurses willing to fill vacant positions in hospitals; and

WHEREAS, research indicates that hospitals with low nurse staffing levels tend to have higher rates of poor patient outcomes; NOW THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE, That the legislative council is requested to authorize a study committee for the 2005 legislative interim to review the nurse staffing needs of the hospitals in this state and to make recommendations for options to improve hospital nurse staffing levels.

SR 23

RULES & ADMINISTRATION

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