

House File 272 - Introduced

HOUSE FILE 272

BY MURPHY

A BILL FOR

1 An Act requiring the establishment of a collaborative
2 nurse council in licensed hospitals and licensed nursing
3 facilities.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. NEW SECTION. 135B.35 Collaborative nurse
2 council.

3 1. A hospital shall establish a collaborative nurse council
4 comprised of nonsupervisory staff nurses. The membership of
5 the council must be apportioned between registered nurses,
6 licensed practical nurses, and advanced practice registered
7 nurses based upon the proportion of each type of nonsupervisory
8 nurse licensee to the total of all nonsupervisory nurses
9 employed by the hospital. Each member of the council shall
10 be appointed respectively by other nonsupervisory nurses who
11 have the same license. Each council shall include at least six
12 members, and shall meet at least annually.

13 2. By majority vote, the council may establish its own rules
14 and procedures, and shall set the term of membership.

15 3. The council shall recommend to the hospital appropriate
16 nurse-to-patient ratios based upon patient acuity and other
17 factors as determined by the council. The council may make
18 other recommendations related to providing appropriate direct
19 care to patients. If the council makes a recommendation to
20 the hospital and the hospital does not follow the council's
21 recommendation, it shall provide a written response to
22 the council, indicating the reason for not following the
23 recommendation of the council.

24 Sec. 2. NEW SECTION. 135C.20C Collaborative nurse council.

25 1. A nursing facility shall establish a collaborative
26 nurse council comprised of nonsupervisory staff nurses.
27 The membership of the council must be apportioned between
28 registered nurses, licensed practical nurses, and advanced
29 practice registered nurses based upon the proportion of
30 each type of nonsupervisory nurse licensee to the total of
31 all nonsupervisory nurses employed by the facility. Each
32 member of the council shall be appointed respectively by
33 other nonsupervisory nurses who have the same license. When
34 possible, each council shall include at least six members, and
35 shall meet at least annually.

1 2. By majority vote, the council may establish its own rules
2 and procedures, and shall set the term of membership.

3 3. The council shall recommend to the facility appropriate
4 nurse-to-patient ratios based upon patient acuity and other
5 factors as determined by the council. The council may make
6 other recommendations related to providing appropriate direct
7 care to patients. If the council makes a recommendation to
8 the facility and the facility does not follow the council's
9 recommendation, it shall provide a written response to
10 the council, indicating the reason for not following the
11 recommendation of the council.

12

EXPLANATION

13 This bill requires that each hospital and nursing facility
14 establish a collaborative nurse council comprised of
15 nonsupervisory staff nurses. Each member of the council shall
16 be appointed respectively by other nonsupervisory nurses who
17 have the same type of license.

18 The council shall recommend to the hospital or nursing
19 facility appropriate nurse-to-patient ratios based upon patient
20 acuity and other factors as determined by the council. The
21 council may make other recommendations related to providing
22 appropriate direct care to patients.