

INTERIM STUDY PROPOSAL 2021-038

State of Arkansas

As Engrossed: S4/22/21

93rd General Assembly

A Bill

Regular Session, 2021

SENATE BILL 611

By: Senator D. Wallace

Filed with: Senate Committee on Public Health, Welfare, and Labor
pursuant to A.C.A. §10-3-217.

For An Act To Be Entitled

AN ACT TO CREATE THE *ACUITY-BASED CARE COMMITTEE*; TO
RECOMMEND PROTOCOLS AND PROCEDURES TO CREATE
STANDARDIZATION AND CONSISTENCY IN NURSE STAFFING
WITHIN HOSPITALS AND REHABILITATION AND LONG-TERM
CARE FACILITIES; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Subtitle

*TO CREATE THE ACUITY-BASED CARE
COMMITTEE; AND TO RECOMMEND PROTOCOLS AND
PROCEDURES TO CREATE STANDARDIZATION AND
CONSISTENCY IN NURSE STAFFING WITHIN
HOSPITALS AND REHABILITATION AND LONG-
TERM CARE FACILITIES.*

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

*SECTION 1. TEMPORARY LANGUAGE. DO NOT CODIFY. Acuity-Based Care
Committee – Creation – Membership – Duties.*

*(a) There is created the Acuity-Based Care Committee to study nurse
staffing in all hospitals, rehabilitation facilities, and long-term care
facilities.*

(b) The committee shall consist of the following members:

*(1) A member of the House Committee on Public Health, Welfare,
and Labor appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives;*

1 (2) A member of the Senate Committee on Public Health, Welfare,
2 and Labor appointed by the President Pro Tempore of the Senate;

3 (3) A representative of the Department of Health;

4 (4) A representative of the Department of Human Services;

5 (5) A representative of the Arkansas Hospital Association, Inc.;

6 (6) A representative of the Arkansas Nurses Association;

7 (7) A representative of the Arkansas State Board of Nursing;

8 (8) A representative of the Arkansas Health Care Association;

9 (9) A representative of the Arkansas Rural Health Partnership;

10 (10) A representative of the Arkansas Minority Health

11 Commission;

12 (11) A representative of the Arkansas Center for Nursing, Inc.;

13 (12) A representative of the Arkansas Organization of Nurse

14 Executives;

15 (13) A representative of the Arkansas Chapter of the Alzheimer's

16 Association;

17 (14) A representative of the Arkansas State Office of AARP,

18 Inc.;

19 (15) A representative of the Arkansas Emergency Nurses

20 Association;

21 (16) A representative of the Arkansas Nursing Home Nurses

22 Association;

23 (17) A representative of the Arkansas Chapter of the American

24 Association of Critical Care Nurses;

25 (18) A representative of Blue Cross Blue Shield; and

26 (19) A representative of Centene Corporation.

27 (c) If a vacancy occurs on the committee, the vacancy shall be filled
28 by the same process as the original appointment.

29 (d) The legislative members of the committee shall be paid per diem
30 and mileage as authorized by law for attendance at meetings of interim
31 committees of the General Assembly.

32 (e)(1) The Director of the Department of Health shall call the first
33 meeting of the committee within sixty (60) days of the effective date of this
34 act and shall serve as chair at the first meeting.

1 Referred requested by the Arkansas Senate

2 Prepared by: MBM/KFW

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