

# A-Engrossed House Bill 2800

Ordered by the House May 20  
Including House Amendments dated May 20

Sponsored by Representative MINNIS; Representatives BOONE, BRUUN, DALTO, FARR, GALIZIO, MARCH, MORGAN, P SMITH, TOMEI, WHISNANT, Senators ATKINSON, BATES, BROWN, COURTNEY, DEVLIN, FERRIOLI, GEORGE, METSGER, MONNES ANDERSON, WESTLUND

## SUMMARY

The following summary is not prepared by the sponsors of the measure and is not a part of the body thereof subject to consideration by the Legislative Assembly. It is an editor's brief statement of the essential features of the measure.

Changes mandatory overtime rules for nurses. Decreases number of hours nurse may be required to work. Clarifies on-call time for nurses.

Clarifies staffing requirements for nurses. Requires hospitals to create staffing committees [composed of] **including, to extent possible, hospital nurse** managers and direct care registered nurses. [Requires Department of Human Services to adopt rules on staffing levels in certain hospital care units.]

[Permits registered nurse in hospital or emergency care unit to refuse patients or to redirect patients if nurse believes accepting additional patients would put patients at risk of harm.]

[Creates Safe Nursing Care Council to assist Department of Human Services in investigating complaints and conducting audits on nurse staffing issues.]

[Declares emergency, effective on passage.]

## A BILL FOR AN ACT

1  
2 Relating to nurses; amending ORS 441.162 and 441.166.

3 **Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:**

4 **SECTION 1.** ORS 441.166 is amended to read:

5 441.166. (1) [After] **When** a hospital learns about the need for replacement staff, the hospital  
6 shall make every reasonable effort to obtain registered nurses, **licensed practical nurses or cer-**  
7 **tified nursing assistants** for unfilled hours or shifts before requiring a registered nurse, **licensed**  
8 **practical nurse or certified nursing assistant** to work overtime.

9 (2) A hospital may not require a registered nurse, **licensed practical nurse or certified**  
10 **nursing assistant** to work:

11 [(a) More than two hours beyond a regularly scheduled shift; and]

12 [(b) More than 16 hours in a 24-hour time period.]

13 (a) **Beyond the agreed-upon shift;**

14 (b) **More than 48 hours in any hospital-defined work week; or**

15 (c) **More than 12 consecutive hours in a 24-hour time period, except that a hospital may**  
16 **require an additional hour of work beyond the 12 hours if:**

17 (A) **A staff vacancy for the next shift becomes known at the end of the current shift; or**

18 (B) **There is a potential harm to an assigned patient if the registered nurse, licensed**  
19 **practical nurse or certified nursing assistant leaves the assignment or transfers care to an-**  
20 **other.**

21 (3)(a) **Time spent in required meetings or receiving education or training shall be in-**  
22 **cluded as hours worked for purposes of subsection (2) of this section.**

**NOTE:** Matter in **boldfaced** type in an amended section is new; matter [italic and bracketed] is existing law to be omitted. New sections are in **boldfaced** type.

1       **(b) Time spent on call but away from the premises of the employer may not be included**  
2 **as hours worked for purposes of subsection (2) of this section.**

3       **(c) Time spent on call or on standby when the registered nurse, licensed practical nurse**  
4 **or certified nursing assistant is required to be at the premises of the employer shall be in-**  
5 **cluded as hours worked for purposes of subsection (2) of this section.**

6       [(3)] (4) The provisions of this section do not apply to nursing staff needs:

7       (a) In the event of a national or state emergency or circumstances requiring the implementation  
8 of a facility disaster plan;

9       (b) In emergency circumstances identified by the Department of Human Services by rule; or

10       (c) If a hospital has made reasonable efforts to contact all of the qualified, on-call nursing staff  
11 and nursing services on the list described in ORS 441.162 and is unable to obtain replacement staff  
12 in a timely manner.

13       **SECTION 2.** ORS 441.162 is amended to read:

14       441.162. (1) A hospital shall be responsible for the development and implementation of a written  
15 hospital-wide staffing plan for nursing services. [*The hospital shall have a process that ensures the*  
16 *consideration of input from direct care clinical staff in the development, implementation, monitoring,*  
17 *evaluation and modification of the staffing plan. The staffing plan shall include the number, qualifica-*  
18 *tions and categories of nursing staff needed for all units.] **The staffing plan shall be developed,**  
19 **monitored, evaluated and modified by a hospital staffing plan committee. To the extent pos-**  
20 **sible, the committee shall:***

21       **(a) Include equal numbers of hospital nurse managers and direct care registered nurses;**

22       **(b) Include at least one direct care registered nurse from each hospital nurse specialty**  
23 **or unit, to be selected by direct care registered nurses from the particular specialty or unit.**  
24 **The hospital shall define its own specialties or units; and**

25       **(c) Have as its primary consideration the provision of safe patient care and an adequate**  
26 **nursing staff pursuant to this chapter.**

27       (2) The hospital shall evaluate and monitor the [*written*] staffing plan [*for nursing services*] for  
28 effectiveness and revise the **staffing** plan as necessary as part of the hospital's quality assurance  
29 process. The hospital shall maintain written documentation of these quality assurance activities.

30       (3) The written staffing plan shall:

31       (a) Be based on [*the nursing care required by the aggregate and individual needs of patients. This*  
32 *nursing care shall be the major consideration in determining the number and categories of nursing staff*  
33 *needed.*] **an accurate description of individual and aggregate patient needs and requirements**  
34 **for nursing care and include a periodic quality evaluation process to determine whether the**  
35 **staffing plan is appropriately and accurately reflecting patient needs over time.**

36       (b) Be based on the specialized qualifications and competencies of the nursing staff. The skill  
37 mix and the competency of the staff shall ensure that the nursing care needs of the patients are  
38 met and shall ensure patient safety.

39       (c) Be consistent with [*the scopes of practice for registered nurses, licensed practical nurses and*  
40 *the authorized duties of certified nursing assistants.*] **nationally recognized evidence-based stan-**  
41 **dards and guidelines established by professional nursing specialty organizations and recog-**  
42 **nize differences in patient acuteness.**

43       **(d) Establish minimum numbers of nursing staff including licensed practical nurses and**  
44 **certified nursing assistants required on specified shifts. At least one registered nurse and**  
45 **one other nursing staff member must be on duty in a unit when a patient is present.**

1       **(e) Include a formal process for evaluating and initiating limitations on admission or di-**  
2 **version of patients to another acute care facility when, in the judgment of the direct care**  
3 **registered nurse, there is an inability to meet patient care needs or a risk of harm to exist-**  
4 **ing and new patients.**

5       **(4) The hospital shall maintain and post a list of on-call nursing staff or staffing agencies**  
6 **to provide replacement for nursing staff in the event of vacancies. The list of on-call nurses**  
7 **or agencies must be sufficient to provide replacement staff.**

8       *[(4) The written staffing plan for nursing services shall establish minimum numbers of nursing*  
9 *staff, including licensed nurses and certified nursing assistants, on specified shifts. The number of*  
10 *nursing staff on duty shall be sufficient to ensure that the nursing care needs of each patient are met.*  
11 *At least one registered nurse and one other nursing care staff member must be on duty when a patient*  
12 *is present.]*

13       *[(5) A hospital shall maintain and post a list of qualified, on-call nursing staff and nursing services*  
14 *that may be called to provide replacement staff in the event of sickness, vacations, vacancies and other*  
15 *absences of nursing staff and that provides a sufficient number of replacement staff for the hospital on*  
16 *a regular basis.]*

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