

HB 651 -- Nurse Staffing Levels

Sponsor: Meadows

Beginning January 1, 2010, this bill requires hospitals to daily compile and conspicuously post staffing information in the patient care area of each unit of the hospital. The staffing information must contain the number of registered professional nurses, licensed practical nurses, and certified nurse aides providing direct patient care in the hospital; their ratio to the number of patients; and the methods used for determining and adjusting direct care staffing levels. Each hospital is also required to compile that information and submit a monthly staffing report to the Department of Health and Senior Services. Any hospital failing to comply with the provisions of the bill will be subject to licensure sanction.