



Sen. Suzy Glowiak Hilton

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10400SB0593sam001

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1 AMENDMENT TO SENATE BILL 593

2 AMENDMENT NO. _____. Amend Senate Bill 593 by replacing
3 everything after the enacting clause with the following:

4 "Section 1. Short title. This Act may be cited as the
5 Health Care Workforce Commission Act.

6 Section 5. Policy and intent.

7 (a) It is the policy of this State to advance and promote a
8 robust and skilled health care workforce that will ensure
9 access to high quality health care to all Illinoisans.

10 (b) It is the intent of the General Assembly to coordinate
11 the various agencies of the State and relevant stakeholders to
12 garner a path toward meeting this policy objective.

13 Section 10. Findings. The General Assembly finds and
14 declares:

15 (a) The COVID-19 pandemic exacerbated an already growing

1 health care workforce shortage, creating significant hiring
2 challenges and reducing access to care.

3 (b) Pandemic flexibility and reciprocity permitted an
4 additional 25,000 highly trained health care workers to
5 provide needed services to Illinoisans. The end of this
6 flexibility and reciprocity have resulted in a significant
7 loss to the State's health care workforce.

8 (c) A February 2024 report created for the Commission on
9 Government Forecasting and Accountability shows that health
10 care is one of the stalwarts of the Illinois economy and
11 Illinois employers will add more health care jobs at a
12 stronger pace than other sectors, as a response to a growing
13 aging population. Illinois hospitals alone are responsible for
14 creating 445,000 jobs and infusing \$117,000,000,000 into the
15 Illinois economy.

16 (d) Studies from the Department of Financial and
17 Professional Regulation show that the majority of licensed
18 nurses are employed full-time while Illinois will still face
19 an estimated shortage of 15,000 registered nurses by the end
20 of 2025.

21 (e) Continued advancements in health care and health care
22 delivery require constant review of resource allocation to
23 ensure the workforce is trained and prepared for those
24 changes.

25 (f) The Illinois health care workforce is not
26 representative of the Illinois population due to barriers for

1 many underrepresented groups.

2 (g) Average waiting times of 175 minutes in hospital
3 emergency departments have contributed to health care workers
4 facing unacceptably high levels of violence from patients and
5 visitors, further challenging the ability to retain highly
6 trained and qualified staff.

7 (h) Public Act 103-0725 creates important opportunities
8 for international medical graduate physicians to play an
9 important role in the growth of the Illinois health care
10 workforce.

11 (i) The lack of an adequate health care workforce has, in
12 part, resulted in a continued shortage of critical health care
13 services and a reduction in access to care.

14 (j) The launch and implementation of the comprehensive
15 regulatory environment by the Department of Financial and
16 Professional Regulation offers tangible opportunities to use
17 technology to enhance the licensure experience for health care
18 professionals as well as allow data to drive decision-making
19 in the workforce space.

20 Section 15. Health Care Workforce Commission.

21 (a) The Health Care Workforce Commission is created within
22 the Department of Financial and Professional Regulation.

23 (b) The Commission shall consist of the following members

24 (1) the Secretary of Financial and Professional
25 Regulation or the Secretary's designee;

1 (2) the Director of Public Health or the Director's
2 designee;

3 (3) the Director of Labor or the Director's designee;

4 (4) the Secretary of Healthcare and Family Services or
5 the Secretary's designee;

6 (5) the Director of Insurance or the Director's
7 designee;

8 (6) the Director of Commerce and Economic Opportunity
9 or the Director's designee;

10 (7) the Director of Employment Security or the
11 Director's designee;

12 (8) the Attorney General or the Attorney General's
13 designee;

14 (9) one member of the Senate, appointed by the
15 President of the Senate;

16 (10) one member of the Senate, appointed by the
17 Minority Leader of the Senate;

18 (11) one member of the House of Representatives,
19 appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives;

20 (12) one member of the House of Representatives,
21 appointed by the Minority Leader of the House of
22 Representatives; and

23 (13) the following members, appointed by the Governor,
24 with the advice and consent of the Senate:

25 (A) one representative of a statewide organization
26 representing physicians;

1 (B) one representative of a statewide organization
2 representing nurses;

3 (C) one representative of a statewide organization
4 representing a majority of hospitals;

5 (D) one representative of a statewide organization
6 representing organized labor;

7 (E) one representative of a statewide organization
8 representing long-term care facilities;

9 (F) one representative of an organization that
10 represents the interests of allied health
11 professionals;

12 (G) one representative of an Illinois nursing
13 school;

14 (H) one representative of a statewide organization
15 representing pharmacists;

16 (I) one representative of a statewide organization
17 representing emergency physicians; and

18 (J) one representative of a statewide organization
19 representing federally qualified health centers.

20 (c) Members shall be appointed within 60 days after the
21 effective date of this Act. Each appointed member of the
22 Commission shall be appointed for a 2-year term or until the
23 member's successor is appointed.

24 (d) The Commission shall meet initially within 120 days
25 after the effective date of this Act, and at least quarterly
26 thereafter. A majority of the members of the Commission shall

1 constitute a quorum for the transaction of business at a
2 meeting of the Commission. At the first meeting of the
3 Commission, the Commission shall elect 2 co-chairs from the
4 members appointed by the leadership of the General Assembly.

5 (e) All members of the Commission shall serve without
6 compensation but shall be reimbursed by the Department for
7 necessary expenses incurred in the performance of their
8 duties.

9 (f) The Department of Financial and Professional
10 Regulation shall provide staff and any necessary
11 administrative and other support to the Commission and shall
12 facilitate the prompt and timely collection and provision of
13 data as requested by the Commission.

14 Section 25. Duties.

15 (a) The Commission shall have the following duties:

16 (1) to review relevant statutes, rules, and
17 regulations that impact health care workers;

18 (2) to review data on the various health care
19 professions to identify workforce shortages that may exist
20 and provide recommendations on addressing those shortages;

21 (3) to provide recommendations on how to promote an
22 early interest in younger Illinoisans in joining the
23 health care workforce;

24 (4) to provide recommendations on how to invest
25 resources to ensure health care workers are trained to

1 meet the demands of an ever-changing health care delivery
2 system;

3 (5) to review, research, and develop recommendations
4 regarding improving health care workforce recruitment and
5 retention;

6 (6) to review, research, and develop recommendations
7 to address barriers for underrepresented groups in the
8 health care workforce;

9 (7) review current capabilities of the comprehensive
10 regulatory environment and other similar state systems to
11 develop recommendations on how to use these tools to
12 further enhance the health care workforce;

13 (8) to review and provide recommendations on the
14 opportunities to be more inclusive of foreign trained
15 physicians and other health care professionals in the
16 Illinois workforce;

17 (9) to develop recommendations that will lead to all
18 Illinoisans having access to the appropriate level of care
19 at the right time; and

20 (10) to develop recommendations that will reduce acts
21 of workplace violence being perpetrated against health
22 care workers.

23 (b) The Commission shall solicit feedback from
24 stakeholders, advocates, and persons with lived experiences to
25 inform the Commission on the duties set forth in subsection
26 (a) and any other considerations the Commission deems

1 necessary.

2 Section 30. Reporting. No later than one year after the
3 first meeting of the Commission, and each year thereafter, the
4 Commission shall submit to the General Assembly and the
5 Governor a report including its recommendations.".