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**131st Legislature (2022-2024)**

**History and Final Disposition**

LD 1639 / SP0656

An Act to Address Unsafe Staffing of Nurses and Improve Patient Care. Presented by Senator BRENNER of Cumberland. Referred to the Joint Standing Committee on Labor and Housing. Public Hearing 05/04/23. Carried Over: 07/26/23. Final Disposition: Carried Over 05/10/24.

**Original Bill**

[LD 1639 \(131st Legis. 2023\)](#)

**Committee Materials**

Joint Standing Committee on Labor and Housing

- (Master file available on request—please include citation:cf131-LD-1639.pdf)

[Public Hearing \(Audio File\) \(LBHS\) \(05/04/2023\)](#)

[Work Session \(Audio File\) \(LBHS\) \(05/24/2023\)](#)

- (Click audio link on committee page. Audio files may cover several bills.)

**New Drafts and Amendments**

[Amendment CA \(S-391\) \(LD 1639 2023\)](#)

**Floor Proceedings and Debate**

[HOUSE, April 12, 2023 \(H-311-318\)](#)

p. H-317

[SENATE, April 12, 2023 \(S-436-449\)](#)

p. S-448

[SENATE, June 22, 2023 \(S-1414-1442\)](#)

p. S-1419 (Amendment(s) S-391)

[SENATE, July 25, 2023 \(S-1531-1592\)](#)

p. S-1590

[HOUSE, July 25, 2023 \(H-1153-1189\)](#)

p. H-1188

[SENATE, March 27, 2024 \(S-2086-2107\)](#)

p. S-2096 (Remarks) (Roll Call(s)(p2101)) (Amendment(s) S-391)

[HOUSE, March 28, 2024 \(H-1544-1557\)](#)

p. H-1548 (Amendment(s) S-391)

## News Articles

- Bill would mandate nurse-to-patient ratio in hospitals (Joe Lawlor) (Portland Press Herald, 4/13/2023, p. B1, B3) ● (Available on request—please include the following citation: 131/LD16xx/nc131-LD-1639/PPH 230413F.pdf)
- Legislative panel considers mandate for nurse-patient ratios in hospitals (Hannah LaClaire) (Portland Press Herald, 5/5/2023, p. A1, A5) ● (Available on request—please include the following citation: 131/LD16xx/nc131-LD-1639/PPH 230505B.pdf)
- Proposed ratios will not bring needed nurses into the profession (Lisa Harvey-McPherson and Juliana L'Heureux) (Portland Press Herald, 5/5/2023, p. A6) ● (Available on request—please include the following citation: 131/LD16xx/nc131-LD-1639/PPH 230505E.pdf)
- Complex issues facing hospitals and nurses (Editorial) (Bangor Daily News, 5/16/2023, p. A8) ● (Available on request—please include the following citation: 131/LD16xx/nc131-LD-1639/BDN 230516D.pdf)
- LD 1639 bad move for patients, nurses (Margaret McRae) (Sun Journal (Lewiston), 5/24/2023, p. A5) ● (Available on request—please include the following citation: 131/LD16xx/nc131-LD-1639/Sun Journal 230524A.pdf)
- No staffing mandate will fix the challenges hospital nurses face (Devin Carr) (Portland Press Herald, 5/25/2023, p. A6) ● (Available on request—please include the following citation: 131/LD16xx/nc131-LD-1639/PPH 230525D.pdf)
- Staffing hospitals at skeletal levels makes nurses scramble (Cokie Giles) (Portland Press Herald, 5/30/2023, p. A7) ● (Available on request—please include the following citation: 131/LD16xx/nc131-LD-1639/PPH 230527C.pdf)
- Nurses split on whether mandate of staff ratios would help (Joe Lawlor) (Maine Sunday Telegram, 6/20/2023, p. A1, A6) ● (Available on request—please include the following citation: 131/LD16xx/nc131-LD-1639/MST 230618B.pdf)
- Staffing pressures on nurses put Maine patients at risk (Natalie Sanford) (Portland Press Herald, 6/20/2023, p. A7) ● (Available on request—please include the following citation: 131/LD16xx/nc131-LD-1639/PPH 230620C.pdf)
- Deficient nurse staffing cannot remain as it is (Editorial) (Portland Press Herald, 6/21/2023, p. A4) ● (Available on request—please include the following citation: 131/LD16xx/nc131-LD-1639/PPH 230621D.pdf)
- Nurse staffing bill would help Maine patients (Cokie Giles) (Bangor Daily News, 6/22/2023, p. A7) ● (Available on request—please include the following citation: 131/LD16xx/nc131-LD-1639/BDN 230622H.pdf)
- Don't listen to excuses on why nurse staffing ratios won't work (Jason Huchel) (Portland Press Herald, 7/10/2023, p. A4) ● (Available on request—please include the following citation: 131/LD16xx/nc131-LD-1639/PPH 230708C.pdf)
- There's no excuse for no new nurses (Jason Huchel) (Kennebec Journal, 7/11/2023, p. A3) ● (Available on request—please include the following citation: 131/LD16xx/nc131-LD-1639/KJ 230711A.pdf)
- After intense lobbying, Maine Senate backs bill to set minimum nurse staffing in hospitals (Joe Lawlor) (Portland Press Herald, 3/28/2024, p. B1, B4) ● (Available on request—please include the following citation: 131/LD16xx/nc131-LD-1639/PPH 240328F.pdf)

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