

**SENATE, No. 3086**

**STATE OF NEW JERSEY**  
**214th LEGISLATURE**

INTRODUCED NOVEMBER 10, 2011

**Sponsored by:**

**Senator LORETTA WEINBERG**

**District 37 (Bergen)**

**Senator JIM WHELAN**

**District 2 (Atlantic)**

**Co-Sponsored by:**

**Senator Vitale**

**SYNOPSIS**

Establishes New Jersey Task Force to Address the Nurse Faculty Shortage.

**CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT**

As introduced.



**(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 11/22/2011)**

1 AN ACT establishing the New Jersey Task Force to Address the  
2 Nurse Faculty Shortage.

3

4 **BE IT ENACTED** *by the Senate and General Assembly of the State*  
5 *of New Jersey:*

6

7 1. The Legislature finds and declares that:

8 a. The growing nurse faculty shortage regionally and nationally  
9 is depriving many qualified applicants to baccalaureate nursing  
10 programs of the opportunity to attain a nursing degree at a time of  
11 predicted long-term professional nurse workforce shortages through  
12 at least the year 2020;

13 b. This critical shortage has created the need for a thorough and  
14 immediate consideration of various options for better integrating  
15 clinical and scholarly expertise among faculty in schools of nursing;  
16 and

17 c. The State should facilitate this effort by sponsoring a task  
18 force to study these issues and develop appropriate  
19 recommendations.

20

21 2. There is established the New Jersey Task Force to Address  
22 the Nurse Faculty Shortage in the Division of Consumer Affairs of  
23 the Department of Law and Public Safety.

24 a. The task force shall include nine members as follows:

25 (1) the Executive Director of the New Jersey Board of Nursing,  
26 the Secretary of Higher Education, and the dean of a school of  
27 nursing in this State that offers a pre-licensure baccalaureate  
28 nursing education program, or their designees, as ex officio  
29 members; and

30 (2) six public members who are residents of this State, to be  
31 appointed by the Governor, including: one person upon the  
32 recommendation of the American Association of University  
33 Professors; one person upon the recommendation of the American  
34 Federation of Teachers New Jersey; one person upon the  
35 recommendation of the Organization of Nurse Executives of New  
36 Jersey; one person upon the recommendation of the New Jersey  
37 Nursing Initiative; one person upon the recommendation of the New  
38 Jersey Collaborating Center for Nursing; and one person upon the  
39 recommendation of the New Jersey State Nurses Association.

40 b. The public members of the task force shall serve without  
41 compensation but may be reimbursed for any expenses incurred by  
42 them in the performance of their duties.

43 c. The task force shall organize as soon as practicable after the  
44 appointment of its members and shall select a chairperson and vice-  
45 chairperson from among its members and a secretary who need not  
46 be a member of the task force.

47 d. The task force shall be entitled to call to its assistance and  
48 avail itself of the services of the employees of any State, county, or

1 municipal department, board, bureau, commission, or agency as it  
2 may require and as may be available to it for its purposes.

3 e. The Division of Consumer Affairs shall provide such staff  
4 support as the task force requires to perform its duties.

5  
6 3. The purpose of the task force shall be to conduct a thorough  
7 and comprehensive assessment of relevant issues in the  
8 consideration of new types of nurse faculty positions in order to  
9 enhance nurse faculty clinical experience and student learning and  
10 to offer teaching options for nurses with advanced degrees who  
11 work in clinical and other environments. In developing its  
12 recommendations, the task force shall have, as its overriding  
13 concern, to promote a highly qualified, diverse nurse faculty  
14 workforce that encompasses the roles and types of positions that  
15 will better connect academia and clinical practice through improved  
16 integration of the theory and science of nursing with its clinical  
17 practice.

18  
19 4. The task force, no later than 12 months after the date of its  
20 organization, shall report to the Governor, and to the Legislature  
21 pursuant to section 2 of P.L.1991, c.164 (C.52:14-19.1), on the  
22 results of its activities, and shall include in that report such  
23 recommendations for administrative, legislative, and other action as  
24 it desires to present pursuant to section 3 of this act.

25  
26 5. This act shall take effect immediately and shall expire upon  
27 the issuance of the report by the task force pursuant to section 4 of  
28 this act.

29  
30

### 31 STATEMENT

32

33 This bill establishes the New Jersey Task Force to Address the  
34 Nurse Faculty Shortage.

35 The bill provides specifically as follows:

36 • The task force is established in the Division of Consumer Affairs  
37 of the Department of Law and Public Safety, which will provide  
38 such staff support as the task force requires to perform its duties.

39 • The task force is to include nine members as follows:

40 -- the Executive Director of the New Jersey Board of Nursing,  
41 the Secretary of Higher Education, and the dean of a school of  
42 nursing in this State that offers a pre-licensure baccalaureate  
43 nursing education program, or their designees, as ex officio  
44 members; and

45 -- six public members who are residents of this State, to be  
46 appointed by the Governor, including one person each upon the  
47 recommendation of the American Association of University  
48 Professors, the American Federation of Teachers New Jersey, the

- 1 Organization of Nurse Executives of New Jersey, the New Jersey  
2 Nursing Initiative, the New Jersey Collaborating Center for  
3 Nursing, and the New Jersey State Nurses Association, respectively.
- 4 • The public members of the task force are to serve without  
5 compensation but may be reimbursed for any expenses incurred  
6 by them in the performance of their duties.
  - 7 • The task force is to select a chairperson and vice-chairperson  
8 from among its members and a secretary who need not be a  
9 member of the task force.
  - 10 • The purpose of the task force is to conduct a thorough and  
11 comprehensive assessment of relevant issues in the consideration  
12 of new types of nurse faculty positions in order to enhance nurse  
13 faculty clinical experience and student learning and to offer  
14 teaching options for nurses with advanced degrees who work in  
15 clinical and other environments. In developing its  
16 recommendations, the task force is to have, as its overriding  
17 concern, to promote a highly qualified, diverse nurse faculty  
18 workforce that encompasses the roles and types of positions that  
19 will better connect academia and clinical practice through  
20 improved integration of the theory and science of nursing with its  
21 clinical practice.
  - 22 • The task force, no later than 12 months after the date of its  
23 organization, is to report to the Governor and the Legislature on  
24 the results of its activities, and to include in that report such  
25 recommendations for administrative, legislative, and other action  
26 as it desires to present pursuant to its charge under this bill.
  - 27 • The bill takes effect immediately and expires upon the issuance of  
28 the task force report.