

1-1 By: Howard, et al. (Senate Sponsor - Zaffirini) H.B. No. 2696
 1-2 (In the Senate - Received from the House May 12, 2015;
 1-3 May 15, 2015, read first time and referred to Committee on Health
 1-4 and Human Services; May 22, 2015, reported adversely, with
 1-5 favorable Committee Substitute by the following vote: Yeas 8,
 1-6 Nays 0, 1 present not voting; May 22, 2015, sent to printer.)

1-7 COMMITTEE VOTE

	Yea	Nay	Absent	PNV
1-8				
1-9	X			
1-10	X			
1-11	X			
1-12	X			
1-13	X			
1-14	X			
1-15				X
1-16	X			
1-17	X			

1-18 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR H.B. No. 2696 By: Zaffirini

1-19 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
 1-20 AN ACT

1-21 relating to a study on reducing workplace violence against nurses.
 1-22 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:
 1-23 SECTION 1. Section 105.001, Health and Safety Code, is
 1-24 amended by adding Subdivisions (3), (4), (5), and (6) to read as
 1-25 follows:

1-26 (3) "Freestanding emergency medical care facility"
 1-27 means a facility licensed under Chapter 254.

1-28 (4) "Home health agency" means a home and community
 1-29 support services agency licensed under Chapter 142.

1-30 (5) "Hospital" means a general or special hospital
 1-31 licensed under Chapter 241, a private mental hospital licensed
 1-32 under Chapter 577, or a hospital that is maintained or operated by
 1-33 this state or an agency of this state.

1-34 (6) "Nursing facility" means an institution licensed
 1-35 under Chapter 242.

1-36 SECTION 2. Chapter 105, Health and Safety Code, is amended
 1-37 by adding Section 105.009 to read as follows:

1-38 Sec. 105.009. STUDY ON WORKPLACE VIOLENCE AGAINST NURSES.

1-39 (a) To the extent existing funding is available, the nursing
 1-40 resource section established under Section 105.002 may conduct a
 1-41 study on workplace violence against nurses in hospitals,
 1-42 freestanding emergency medical care facilities, nursing
 1-43 facilities, and home health agencies. A study conducted under this
 1-44 section must:

1-45 (1) distinguish between verbal and physical violence;

1-46 (2) determine the practice areas, environments, and
 1-47 settings in which verbal or physical violence is likely to occur;

1-48 (3) identify practices that prevent or reduce verbal
 1-49 and physical violence against nurses;

1-50 (4) survey nurses regarding the type and frequency of
 1-51 verbal and physical violence the nurses have experienced in the
 1-52 preceding year and throughout the nurses' careers; and

1-53 (5) survey hospitals, freestanding emergency medical
 1-54 care facilities, nursing facilities, and home health agencies
 1-55 regarding the occurrence of verbal and physical violence against
 1-56 nurses and specific strategies implemented to prevent verbal and
 1-57 physical violence, including:

1-58 (A) required reporting of verbal and physical
 1-59 violence;

1-60 (B) reporting of physical assaults to law

2-1 enforcement; and
2-2 (C) implementation of a violence prevention plan
2-3 and the contents of and personnel covered by the plan.

2-4 (b) The nursing resource section may contract with an
2-5 independent researcher to conduct all or part of the study.

2-6 (c) The nursing advisory committee established by Section
2-7 104.0155 shall serve as the oversight committee for the study.

2-8 (d) To the extent possible, the nursing resource section
2-9 shall cooperate with the department and the Texas Board of Nursing
2-10 to conduct the study and coordinate the surveys under this section
2-11 with surveys required by other provisions of law.

2-12 (e) If the nursing resource section conducts a study under
2-13 this section, not later than December 1, 2016, the nursing resource
2-14 section shall complete the study and publish the study findings.

2-15 (f) This section expires December 31, 2017.

2-16 SECTION 3. As soon as practicable after the effective date
2-17 of this Act, the executive commissioner of the Health and Human
2-18 Services Commission shall adopt the rules necessary to implement
2-19 Section 105.009, Health and Safety Code, as added by this Act.

2-20 SECTION 4. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
2-21 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
2-22 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
2-23 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
2-24 Act takes effect September 1, 2015.

2-25 * * * * *