COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

NOTICE

D.C. LAW 7-35

"District of Columbia Nursing Shortage Study Commission Act of 1987".

Pursuant to Section 412 of the District of Columbia Self-Government and Governmental Reorganization Act, P. L. 93-198, "the Act", the Council of the District of Columbia adopted Bill No. 7-168 on first and second readings, June 16, 1987, and June 30, 1987, respectively. Following the signature of the Mayor on July 23, 1987, this legislation was assigned Act 7-63, published in the August 14, 1987, edition of the <u>D.C. Register</u>, (Vol. 34 page 5318) and transmitted to Congress on July 29, 1987 for a 30-day review, in accordance with Section 602(c)(1) of the Act.

The Council of the District of Columbia hereby gives notice that the 30-day Congressional Review Period has expired, and therefore, cites this enactment as D.C. Law 7-35, effective October 9, 1987.

DAVID A. CLARKE Chairman of the Council

Dates Counted During the 30-day Congressional Review Period:

July 29,30,31

August 3,4,5,6,7

September 9,10,11,14,15,16,17,18,21,22,23,24,25,28,29,30

October 1,2,5,6,7,8

OCT 09 1987

AN ACT

D.C. ACT 7 - 63

IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

JUL 2 3 1987

To establish a District of Columbia Nursing Shortage Study Commission in the District of Columbia.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, That this act may be cited as the "District of Columbia Nursing Shortage Study Commission Act of 1987".

Sec. 2. (a) There is established a District of Columbia Nursing Shortage Study Commission ("Study Commission") to be comprised of 15 members, 3 of whom shall Note, D.C. Code, be appointed by the Committee on Human Services of the Council of the District of Columbia ("Council"), 2 of whom shall be appointed by the chairperson of the Committee on Human Services, 1 of whom shall be appointed by the Chairman of the Council, and 9 of whom shall be appointed by the Mayor of the District of Columbia ("Mayor") in accordance with subsection (b) of this section. An appointee of the Mayor shall serve as chairperson of the Study Commission.

(b) The Mayor shall make appointments that ensure representation of experts in the area of nursing and innovative programs for nurses, of nurses currently working in the profession, and of public and community interest organizations.

(c) The Study Commission and the terms of its members shall expire 210 days from the first meeting of the Study Commission. Vacancies occuring on the Study Commisssion shall be filled in the same manner as the original appointment.

(d) Members of the Study Commission shall be appointed within 45 days of the effective date of this act. The chairperson of the Study Commission shall convene an organizational meeting no later than 15 days after a majority of members have been appointed.

(e) It shall be the duty of the Study Commission to study all matters relating to the shortage of nurses in the District of Columbia ("District"), including the following:

sec. 2-3302.4 (1988 supp.)

- (1) Analyzing the entry level salaries and salary scale of the nursing profession and determining whether these salaries have a direct impact on the nursing shortage in the District;
- (2) Analyzing the employment benefits of those in the nursing profession, including insurance, parental leave, sick and vacation leave, pension plans, flexibility in scheduling patterns, on-site child care facilities, and career advancement opportunities, and determining whether these benefits have a direct impact on the nursing shortage in the District;
- (3) Reviewing the flexibility of current nursing education programs in the District, including part-time student program options, evening or weekend classes, and child care facilities for parent-students;
- (4) Examining the educational curricula of nurses so that nursing educational opportunities may be increased;
- (5) Examining the potential for establishing an open curriculum system of matriculation in all nursing education programs in the District that would facilitate students moving from nursing assistant certification to a Bachelor of Science degree in nursing at a pace appropriate for each student;
- (6) Exploring innovative training and educational programs to upgrade the skills and salary of licensed vocational and practical nurses, nursing assistants, and other para-professional nursing personnel currently employed by D.C. General Hospital and the District of Columbia Department Of Human Services ("DHS"); and
- (7) Recommending programs to assist D.C. General Hospital and DHS in meeting its needs for professional nurses to provide adequate health care.
- (f) The Study Commission shall solicit public comment regarding its recommendations.
- (g) Within 180 days after the first meeting of the Study Commission, the Study Commission shall submit to the Council and the Mayor a final report containing specific recommendations for appropriate legislative, administrative, and regulatory action on issues listed in subsection (e) of this section.
- (h) Members of the Study Commission shall serve without compensation, but shall be reimbursed for reasonable expenses associated with their services in accordance with section 1108 of the District of Columbia Government Comprehensive Merit Personnel Act of 1978, effective March 3, 1979 (D.C. Law 2-139; D.C. Code, sec. 1-612.8).
- (i) The Mayor shall provide sufficient office space for the Study Commission and shall detail personnel to assist the Study Commission in its activites.

Sec. 3. This act shall take effect after a 30-day period of Congressional review following approval by the Mayor (or in the event of veto by the Mayor, action by the Council of the District of Columbia to override the veto) as provided in section 602(c)(l) of the District of Columbia Self-Government and Governmental Reorganization Act, approved December 24, 1973 (87 Stat. 813; D.C. Code, sec. 1-233(c)(l)).

Chairman

Council of the District of Columbia

Mayor

District of Columbia

APPROVED: JULY 23, 1987



COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA Council Period Seven

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CERTIFICATION RECORD

Secretary to the Council

Date