

MOTION BY SUPERVISOR MARK RIDLEY-THOMAS

APRIL 18, 2017

Evaluating the Implementation and Outcomes of the Nurse Staffing Plan

In Fiscal Year (FY) 2014-15 the Los Angeles County Department of Health Services (DHS) began implementing a multi-year Nurse Staffing Plan that was intended to allow DHS to achieve standardized staffing models for patient care, support the creation of patient-centered medical homes, satisfy nurse-to-patient staffing ratios mandated by State Assembly Bill 394, and position DHS to better respond to health care reform. The proposed plan included a total of 1,212 new budgeted positions to be filled over a four-year time period.

The FY 2017-18 Recommended Budget includes 153.0 new Nursing Attendant positions. These additional Nursing Attendants would monitor patients that require constant observation due to the risk of injury, including falls and represent the first of a two-year program which aims to have 305.0 Nursing Attendants hired by the end of FY 2018-19. Although DHS has provided quarterly updates on its Nurse Staffing Plan, it is important to understand how the Nursing Attendants will complement DHS' ongoing work with respect to the Nurse Staffing Plan.

I THEREFORE MOVE THAT THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS:

Instruct the Director of the Department of Health Services to report back in writing to the Board of Supervisors during Fiscal Year (FY) 2017-18 Budget Deliberations with:

1. The total number of the 1,212 budgeted positions that have been filled since the implementation of the Nurse Staffing Plan in FY 2014-15;
2. An evaluation of the intended and actual outcomes since DHS' implementation of the Nurse Staffing Plan; and
3. A description of how the proposed 305.0 Nurse Attendants in the DHS budget would complement the Nurse Staffing Plan.

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(DJ/VS)

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