National Nursing Shortage Task Force Act of 2023

The United States is on the precipice of a catastrophic nursing shortage, with medically underserved areas already experiencing many of the consequences of that shortage.

- U.S. is projected to need about **200,000 additional registered nurses (RNs) each year** over the next decade\(^1\)
- **28.7% of RNs plan to leave the profession** within the next 5 years, which equates to about a million registered nurses\(^2\)
- U.S. nursing schools **turned away over 90,000 qualified applications** from baccalaureate and graduate nursing programs in 2021 mainly due to insufficient faculty\(^3\)

These persistent and looming shortages are negatively impacting nurses choosing to enter and stay in the field.

- **45% of nurses reported feeling burned out** “a few times a week” or “every day”\(^4\)
- Nurses are being asked to work longer hours to accommodate shortages
- As seasoned RNs leave the field, newly licensed nurses are losing opportunities to work under those with decades of experience

After RNs worked tirelessly on the frontlines through the COVID-19 pandemic, the federal government must ensure we are employing all the tools at our disposal to bolster the nursing workforce.

The National Nursing Shortage Task Force Act of 2023 will:

- Require the formation of a task force that will issue policy recommendations to the President and Congress on addressing the growing nursing shortage.
- It will be made up of individuals with relevant expertise in nursing practice, nursing labor market analysis, nursing education, health care financing and facility management, and nursing labor unions, among others.

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\(^1\) [https://www.bls.gov/ooh/healthcare/registered-nurses.htm](https://www.bls.gov/ooh/healthcare/registered-nurses.htm)
\(^3\) [https://www.aacnursing.org/Portals/0/PDFs/Fact-Sheets/Faculty-Shortage-Factsheet.pdf](https://www.aacnursing.org/Portals/0/PDFs/Fact-Sheets/Faculty-Shortage-Factsheet.pdf)