



NEW YORK STATE SENATOR

Shirley L. Huntley

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SHIRLEY L. HUNTLEY April 19, 2010

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Enacts the "safe staffing for quality care act" to require acute care facilities to implement certain direct-care nurse to patient ratios in all nursing units; sets minimum staffing requirements; requires every such facility to submit a documented staffing plan to the department on an annual basis and upon application for an operating certificate; requires acute care facilities to maintain staffing records during all shifts; authorizes nurses to refuse work assignments if the assignment exceeds the nurse's abilities or if minimum staffing is not present; requires public access to documented staffing plans; imposes civil penalties for

violations of such provisions; establishes private right of action for nurses discriminated against for refusing any illegal work assignment.