

**TOWNSHIP OF CRANFORD
CRANFORD, NEW JERSEY**

RESOLUTION NO. 2024-148

**RESOLUTION EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR LEGISLATION TO ESTABLISH
MINIMUM REGISTERED PROFESSIONAL NURSE STAFFING STANDARDS**

WHEREAS, a one (1)-patient increase in a nurse's workload increased the likelihood of an inpatient death within thirty (30) days of admission by seven (7) per cent (%); and

WHEREAS, mortality risk decreases by nine (9) per cent (%) for Intensive Care Unit (ICU) patients and sixteen (16) per cent (%) for surgery patients with the increase of one FTE (fulltime) RN (Registered Nurse) per patient day; and

WHEREAS, nurse staffing shortages are a factor in one (1) out of every four (4) unexpected hospital deaths or injuries caused by errors; and

WHEREAS, a 2021 study published in the American Journal of Infection Control found that each additional sepsis patient per nurse was associated with nineteen (19) per cent (%) higher odds of in-hospital mortality; and

WHEREAS, a study of New York hospitals in 2021 showed significant decreases in patient deaths would occur if patient care was limited to a ratio of four (4) patients to one (1) nurse: four thousand three hundred and seventy (4,370) deaths would have been avoided in New York just among Medicare patients during the two (2)-year study; and

WHEREAS, understaffing at hospitals, ambulatory surgery facilities, State developmental centers and psychiatric hospitals have been demonstrated to be an underlying cause of the current nursing shortage as higher patient assignments create higher levels of job dissatisfaction, burnout and turnover rates among nurses;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Township Committee of the Township of Cranford, County of Union, State of New Jersey fully supports the proposed legislation and hereby urges the Legislature pass Assembly Bill No. 3450 and Senate Bill No. S1941.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Office of the Governor of the State of New Jersey, the State Legislators representing the Township of Cranford, the Speaker of the New Jersey General Assembly, the President of the New Jersey State Senate, the Senate Health, Human Services and Senior Citizens Committee, the Assembly Health Committee and the Commissioner of the New Jersey Department of Health.

Certified to be a true copy of a resolution adopted by the Township Committee of the Township of Cranford at a meeting held March 5, 2024.

Patricia Donahue, RMC
Township Clerk

Dated: _____