

# ***LANDMARK STAFFING LEGISLATION HAPPENING IN 2021***

## **NYSNA VICTORY ON THE PATH TO STATEWIDE SAFE STAFFING**

NYSNA nurses have been fighting for years for Safe Staffing, and for the first time, the State Senate has introduced a staffing bill. While this amended bill does not fully implement universal ratios immediately, it represents a significant and concrete step forward. Because of your advocacy, NYSNA was able to push for and win improved provisions in this legislation around a host of critical issues.



### **The bill being moved will enact the following at all NYSNA and non-NYSNA hospitals:**

- Establish staffing committees led by frontline RNs *AND* other healthcare staff.
- Staffing committees will prepare and file annual staffing plans with NYS that clearly indicate patient assignments for nurses and other direct care staff by unit and shift.
- All of our contractual staffing grids and ratios negotiated by NYSNA must be included in hospitals' plans and will now become NYS law—all while preserving our contractual enforcement rights on staffing.
- Hospitals will be required to comply with their annual staffing plans as a matter of law.
- Staffing plans will be enforceable by the state DOH with state penalties.
- Staffing plans and actual staffing levels for each hospital unit and shift will be publicly available to patients and staff and will be posted on the DOH website to allow comparison.
- An independent commission will study this new law's impact on patient care and nurse staffing levels and make recommendations for further action to the legislature.
- Requires the DOH to establish new minimum staffing standards for ICUs and critical care units by January 1, 2022.

These steps are a leap forward towards our overall goal—universal staffing ratios. NYSNA will be building Action Plans to prepare for this bill's passage to enforce the new law.

Sign up to be a Staffing Captain today to join the fight and be part of your facility's Action Plan.

***Please Register today:***  
***<http://bit.ly/StaffingCaptain>***



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**NURSES**  
ASSOCIATION