

**HB 2519 - DIGEST**

Establishes the Washington state patient safety act.

Requires the department of health to: (1) Adopt patient assignment limits; and

(2) Conduct regular audits of hospital compliance with the act and investigate complaints of violations.

Requires hospitals to: (1) Submit a staffing plan to the department of health on at least an annual basis;

(2) Implement the staffing plan developed by the nurse staffing committee and assign nursing personnel to each patient care unit in accordance with the plan; and

(3) Regularly collect information regarding nurse staffing and submit it to the department of health semiannually.

Prescribes penalties.