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| BILL ANALYSIS |

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| C.S.H.B. 3296 |
| By: Klick |
| Public Health |
| Committee Report (Substituted) |

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| **BACKGROUND AND PURPOSE** Interested parties contend that too few nurses are afforded the protections of a nursing peer review committee when a nurse takes or refuses to take an action on the basis of a nurse's duty to a patient. C.S.H.B. 3296 seeks to extend these protections to more nurses by providing for increased establishment of nursing peer review committees. |
| **CRIMINAL JUSTICE IMPACT**It is the committee's opinion that this bill does not expressly create a criminal offense, increase the punishment for an existing criminal offense or category of offenses, or change the eligibility of a person for community supervision, parole, or mandatory supervision. |
| **RULEMAKING AUTHORITY** It is the committee's opinion that this bill does not expressly grant any additional rulemaking authority to a state officer, department, agency, or institution. |
| **ANALYSIS** C.S.H.B. 3296 amends the Occupations Code to decrease from 10 nurses to eight nurses the minimum number of nurses regularly employed, hired, or contracted for services by a person that triggers the requirement for the person to establish a nursing peer review committee to conduct nursing peer review for vocational nurses. The bill decreases the minimum number of nurses regularly employed, hired, or contracted for services by a person that triggers the requirement for the person to establish a nursing peer review committee to conduct nursing peer review for professional nurses from 10 nurses, at least 5 of whom are registered nurses, to eight nurses, at least four of whom are registered nurses. |
| **EFFECTIVE DATE** September 1, 2017. |
| **COMPARISON OF ORIGINAL AND SUBSTITUTE**While C.S.H.B. 3296 may differ from the original in minor or nonsubstantive ways, the following comparison is organized and formatted in a manner that indicates the substantial differences between the introduced and committee substitute versions of the bill. |
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| INTRODUCED | HOUSE COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE |
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| SECTION 1. Section 303.0015(a), Occupations Code, is amended to read as follows:(a) A person shall establish a nursing peer review committee to conduct nursing peer review under this chapter and Chapter 301:(1) for vocational nurses, if the person regularly employs, hires, or contracts for the services of five [~~10~~] or more nurses; and(2) for professional nurses, if the person regularly employs, hires, or contracts for the services of five [~~10~~] or more nurses, at least three [~~five~~] of whom are registered nurses. | SECTION 1. Section 303.0015(a), Occupations Code, is amended to read as follows:(a) A person shall establish a nursing peer review committee to conduct nursing peer review under this chapter and Chapter 301:(1) for vocational nurses, if the person regularly employs, hires, or contracts for the services of eight [~~10~~] or more nurses; and(2) for professional nurses, if the person regularly employs, hires, or contracts for the services of eight [~~10~~] or more nurses, at least four [~~five~~] of whom are registered nurses. |
| SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2017. | SECTION 2. Same as introduced version. |

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