88R4707 MPF-D

By:  Howard H.B. No. 990

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the task force on racial diversity in the nursing workforce.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1.  TASK FORCE ON RACIAL DIVERSITY IN NURSING WORKFORCE. (a) A task force is established under this section to assess and determine methods of promoting racial diversity in the nursing workforce in this state.

(b)  The nursing advisory committee established under Section 104.0155, Health and Safety Code, shall develop a uniform application form to use in soliciting eligible applicants for task force membership. As soon as practicable after the effective date of this Act, the nursing advisory committee shall solicit applicants for task force membership using the uniform application form.

(c)  The task force is composed of the following nine members the nursing advisory committee selects from the pool of eligible applicants:

(1)  one member who serves on the nursing advisory committee;

(2)  one member who represents the Texas Center for Nursing Workforce Studies;

(3)  one member who represents the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board;

(4)  two members who represent initial licensure nursing programs of public institutions of higher education in this state;

(5)  two members who represent advanced nursing programs of public institutions of higher education in this state or health-related institutions;

(6)  one member who represents the hospital industry; and

(7)  one member who represents the Texas Nurses Association.

(d)  The member serving on the nursing advisory committee shall chair the task force.

SECTION 2.  DUTIES OF TASK FORCE. The task force established under Section 1 of this Act shall:

(1)  assess the diversity in this state's nursing workforce based on existing data;

(2)  identify any current initiatives to diversify the nursing workforce in this state and the strengths and limitations of those initiatives;

(3)  establish goals for diversifying the nursing workforce; and

(4)  develop recommendations on strategies and promising practices to reduce barriers and achieve those diversity goals for the nursing workforce.

SECTION 3.  REPORT. Not later than September 1, 2024, the task force established under Section 1 of this Act shall deliver a report to the Senate Health and Human Services Committee, House Public Health Committee, House Higher Education Committee, and Senate Higher Education Committee detailing the task force's activities and recommendations.

SECTION 4.  EXPIRATION. The task force established under Section 1 of this Act is abolished and this Act expires December 1, 2024.

SECTION 5.  EFFECTIVE DATE. This Act takes effect September 1, 2023.