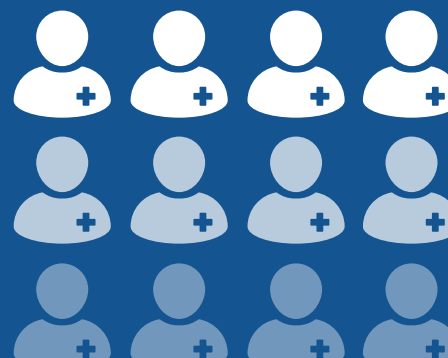


House Bill 2665: Improving the transparency and affordability of temporary health care staffing



The problem

A nationwide workforce shortage exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic has forced many health care providers such as hospitals to look to temporary agency staff to help meet their staffing needs so that they can continue to serve their communities. The high cost of temporary agency staff has been a key contributor to the hospital financial strain that emerged during the pandemic and continues today as hospitals face ongoing workforce shortages.

The Solution

HB 2665 establishes maximum rates a temporary staffing agency may charge a health care provider, and with the -2 amendment, will allow deviations from those rates under certain circumstances, such as in emergencies. The -2 amendment to HB 2665 includes provisions that are important for hospitals to continue to serve their communities.

Hospitals support HB 2665 with the -2 amendment, which helps strengthen the continuum of care and increase transparency and accountability around temporary staffing while protecting against unintended consequences for patients.

**The maximum rates
would go into effect
Jan. 1, 2025.**

In a letter to the White House's COVID-19 Response Team coordinator in late 2021, members of Congress raised concerns about "the extreme prices being reported for nurse staffing agencies from hospitals in our states" and reports of nurse staffing agencies "vastly inflating price by two, three or more times pre-pandemic rates and then taking 40% or more of the amount being charged to the hospitals for themselves in profits."



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