

1 A JOINT RESOLUTION directing the Cabinet for Health and Family Services to
2 gather data from licensed healthcare facilities to assess the status of workplace safety.

3 WHEREAS, healthcare workers provide services in a wide range of healthcare
4 settings, including medical-surgical hospitals, pharmacies, psychiatric and rehabilitation
5 hospitals, surgery centers, outpatient clinics, immediate care, skilled nursing, with in-
6 home nursing employers of at least 25 employees, hospice care, community triage and
7 modified medical detoxification facilities; and

8 WHEREAS, healthcare workers are up to 12 times more likely to experience
9 workplace violence than any other profession; and

10 WHEREAS, healthcare workers deserve to work in a safe and nonviolent setting;

11 WHEREAS, healthcare facilities are called upon to create and implement
12 workplace violence prevention prohibition programs and to establish a mechanism for
13 reporting and tabulating incidents of violence and threats of violence, whether the
14 healthcare worker is injured or not, and any other unsafe condition or incident occurring
15 in the workplace;

16 NOW, THEREFORE,

17 ***Be it resolved by the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky:***

18 ➔Section 1. Between July 1, 2020, and June 30, 2021, the Kentucky Cabinet for
19 Health and Family Services shall gather information from each healthcare facility
20 licensed by the Commonwealth of Kentucky and make a report to be submitted to the
21 Interim Joint Committee on Health, Welfare, and Family Services no later than December
22 1, 2021, with the following elements:

23 (1) Description of policies in place to establish in the facility a workplace that is
24 safe and free of violence or threats of violence;

25 (2) Description of procedures for employees to report internally incidents of
26 unsafe conditions, and of violence or threats of violence;

27 (3) Number and types of incidents reported;

1 (4) Description of policies in place to prohibit acts of discrimination or retaliation
2 against employees for reporting workplace safety violations or workplace violence
3 incidents, threats, or concerns;

4 (5) Description of policies and activities on the part of the facility which provide
5 follow-up and support for healthcare workers who are victims of unsafe conditions or
6 violence or threats of violence;

7 (6) Description of an annual safety assessment for the facility and results of the
8 most recently conducted assessment;

9 (7) Description of procedures for educating healthcare workers within 90 days of
10 hire on safety measures and policies in the facility; and

11 (8) Processes to identify workplace safety problems and to develop a plan to
12 resolve identified problems.

13 ➔Section 2. Between July 1, 2020, and June 30, 2021, the Kentucky Cabinet for
14 Health and Family Services shall gather available data from each healthcare professional
15 association, including but not limited to the Kentucky Medical Association, Kentucky
16 Nurses Association, and organizations representing pharmacists and therapists delivering
17 physical, occupational, rehabilitation, speech and language, audiology, respiratory, and
18 mental health and substance use disorder therapies, and make a report to be submitted to
19 the Interim Joint Committee on Health, Welfare, and Family Services no later than
20 December 1, 2021, with the following elements:

21 (1) Assessment of the level of safety and freedom from violence at their work
22 setting;

23 (2) Description of procedures for reporting internally incidents of unsafe
24 conditions, and of violence or threats of violence;

25 (3) Number of types of incidents which they have reported or of which they are
26 aware;

27 (4) Assessment of the strength of prohibitions against acts of discrimination or

1 retaliation against employees for reporting workplace safety violations or workplace
2 violence incidents, threats, or concerns;

3 (5) Assessment of the level of follow-up and support for healthcare workers who
4 are victims of unsafe conditions or violence or threats of violence;

5 (6) Awareness of and participation in an annual safety assessment for the facility;

6 (7) Description of education received on safety measures and policies in their
7 work setting; and

8 (8) Opportunities for participation in a process to identify workplace safety
9 problems and to develop a plan to resolve unidentified problems.