

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION establishing the Health Care Outcomes Task
2 Force.

3 WHEREAS, Kentucky suffers from an acute shortage of health care workers, with
4 nearly 13,000 job vacancies in hospitals across the state at the end of 2022; and

5 WHEREAS, the nonphysician hospital workforce in Kentucky had a 15 percent
6 vacancy rate, which leads to an increase in wait times for those seeking treatment; and

7 WHEREAS, more than 20 percent of nursing positions in Kentucky remain vacant.
8 The state needs at least 16,000 additional nurses to meet demand; and

9 WHEREAS, recruiting and retaining health care workers is of the utmost
10 importance, as having more health care workers leads to better patient health and quality
11 of care; and

12 WHEREAS, the health of Kentucky's population has not significantly changed in
13 years. The investment into additional resources and programs is critical to help
14 Kentuckians of all ages;

15 NOW, THEREFORE,

16 *Be it resolved by the House of Representatives of the General Assembly of the*
17 *Commonwealth of Kentucky, the Senate concurring therein:*

18 ➔Section 1. The Legislative Research Commission is hereby directed to establish
19 the Health Care Outcomes Task Force to study the complex issues relating to improving
20 health care access and quality of care, recruiting and retaining health care workers, and
21 investments into additional resources and programs in Kentucky to improve the overall
22 health of Kentuckians and to attract students to pursue a career in health care.

23 ➔Section 2. The Health Care Outcomes Task Force shall be composed of the
24 following members, with final membership of the task force being subject to the
25 consideration and approval of the Legislative Research Commission:

26 (1) Three members of the Senate appointed by the President of the Senate, one of
27 whom shall be designated by the President of the Senate as a co-chair of the task force;

1 (2) One member of the Senate appointed by the Minority Floor Leader of the
2 Senate;

3 (3) Three members of the House of Representatives appointed by the Speaker of
4 the House of Representatives, one of whom shall be designated by the Speaker of the
5 House of Representatives as a co-chair of the task force; and

6 (4) One member of the House of Representatives appointed by the Minority Floor
7 Leader of the House of Representatives.

8 ➔Section 3. The Health Care Outcomes Task Force shall meet monthly during
9 the 2024 Interim of the General Assembly and shall submit findings and
10 recommendations for improving the healthcare outcomes in Kentucky to the Legislative
11 Research Commission for referral to the Interim Joint Committee on Health Services by
12 December 1, 2024.

13 ➔Section 4. Provisions of this Resolution to the contrary notwithstanding, the
14 Legislative Research Commission shall have the authority to alternatively assign the
15 issues identified herein to an interim joint committee or subcommittee thereof, and to
16 designate a study completion date.