

1 A JOINT RESOLUTION directing the Kentucky Department of Education to
2 collect and report data regarding school nurses.

3 WHEREAS, a school nurse plays a central role in maintaining the overall health
4 and well-being of students, staff, and the school community; and

5 WHEREAS, data reports regarding school nurses and their treatment outcomes do
6 not exist in a comprehensive manner in Kentucky; and

7 WHEREAS, there is a strong connection between student health and improved
8 grades, standardized test performance, graduation rates, and attendance; and

9 WHEREAS, accurate data is needed to inform efforts to achieve the placement of a
10 nurse in every school, to ensure availability for students each school day, and improve the
11 health of the children of the Commonwealth; and

12 WHEREAS, 35 states and the District of Columbia have policies requiring school
13 nurses and seven authorize, encourage, or address student access to school nurses; and

14 WHEREAS, based on Fall 2023 data, 101 out of 171 districts, or 59.1 percent, had
15 a full-time nurse in each of their schools and 25 districts had no nurse in any of their 52
16 schools; and

17 WHEREAS, the General Assembly prioritizes the health of Kentucky's children and
18 strives to provide the supports required for their success;

19 NOW, THEREFORE,

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

21 ➔Section 1. The Kentucky Department of Education is hereby directed to collect
22 and report the following information relating to school nurses in public schools to the
23 Legislative Research Commission by December 31, 2026, for referral to the Interim Joint
24 Committee on Education:

25 (1) The total number of practicing nurses providing services to students in each
26 local school district, if any; and

27 (2) Of that total, the number of practicing nurses by public school, including the

1 following:

2 (a) The schools within the district that share a school nurse, if any;

3 (b) If a school has a nurse practicing within the school, how many nurses the
4 school has and if they are stationed full time or part time within the school;

5 (c) The number of schools in the district without a nurse;

6 (d) If the nurses are employed or contracted by the district;

7 (e) The licensure type of each nurse; and

8 (f) The percentage of costs paid by the school district, identifying each of the
9 funding sources utilized, for the district to maintain each nurse;

10 (g) The teacher-to-student ratio of each school; and

11 (h) The nurse-to-student ratio of each school.