

**RESOLUTION NO. 11-23-254
BOROUGH OF HIGHLAND PARK
MIDDLESEX COUNTY**

**RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF MANDATE MINIMUM
NURSE STAFFING AT HOSPITALS**

WHEREAS, a one-patient increase in a nurse’s workload increased the likelihood of an in-patient death within 30 days of admission by 7 percent, and

WHEREAS, mortality risk decreases by 9 percent for ICU patients and 16 percent for surgery patients with the increase of one FTE (fulltime) RN per patient day; and

WHEREAS, nurse staffing shortages are a factor in one out of every four unexpected hospital deaths or injuries caused by errors; and

WHEREAS, a 2021 study published in the American Journal of Infection Control found that each additional sepsis patient per nurse was associated with 19% higher odds of in-hospital mortality; and

WHEREAS, a study of New York hospitals in 2021 showed significant decreases in patient deaths would occur if patient care was limited to a ratio of 4 patients to 1 Nurse: 4,370 deaths would have been avoided in New York just among Medicare patients during the two-year study; and

WHEREAS, the staffing crisis and resulting nurses strike at Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital could have dire consequences on the delivery of care.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Highland Park, County of Middlesex, State of New Jersey urge the NJ legislature and Governor Murphy to pass and sign into law S.304/A.4536 to mandate safe staffing levels in every hospital.

I, Jennifer Santiago, Borough Clerk of the Borough of Highland Park, New Jersey, do hereby certify the above to be a true copy of a resolution adopted by the Borough Council of said Borough on November 21, 2023.

Jennifer Santiago, Borough Clerk

RECORD OF COUNCIL VOTES

Council Member	Ayes	Nays	Abstain	Absent
Canavera				
George				
Hale				
Hersh				
Kim-Chohan				
Postelnik				