

House Resolution 155 Study Group

MINUTES
 February 6, 2023
 Louisiana Hospital Association
 Board Room
 2334 Weymouth Drive, Baton Rouge, LA 70809

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chancellor Steib at 9:07 a.m.

ROLL CALL

Organization	Designee Name	Title
LDH	Nicole Coarsey	Primary Care Officer, LDH, Office of Public Health
LCTCS	Larissa Littleton-Steib	Chancellor, Delgado Community College
LSU	Demetrius Porche (absent)	Dean and Professor of Nursing, LSU Health New Orleans
Southern	Kelly Smith (absent)	Chair and Associate Professor of Nursing, Southern University at New Orleans
University of Louisiana	Cami Geisman	Vice President for External Affairs & Chief of Staff, UL System
LAICU	Tina Holland (absent) Sue Davis proxy	President, FRANU
Louisiana Hospital Association	Michele Sutton (absent) Paul Salles proxy	President, North Oaks Hospital System
Louisiana State Nurses Association	Ahnyel Burkes	Director of Health and Policy, Louisiana State Nurses Association
Louisiana State Medical Society	Jeff Williams	Executive Vice President & CEO, LSMS
Louisiana Association of Nurse Practitioners	Jennifer Lemoine	Professor and Interim Associate Dean, College of Nursing and Health Science, UL Lafayette, Health Policy Chair, LANP
Louisiana Nursing Home Association	Mark Berger	Executive Director

REVIEW OF November 28, 2022 MEETING MINUTES

Chancellor Steib requested a motion to approve the minutes. Motion to approve by Dr. Jennifer Lemoine and seconded by Mark Berger. The following changes were requested- Jennifer Lemoine -correct the spelling of Kelly's name. Mark Berger -correct the misspelling in priority one. Dr. Steib accepted those changes and indicated that she would make changes.

Review and Discussion of Draft HR 155 Document

Dr. Steib acknowledged the attendance of Representative Turner and provided a brief background on the work of the study group and the structure of that work. She indicated that the first 6 pages of the document consisted of the exact language of the resolution.

Dr. Steib stated that we would begin with the Education and Licensure/Credentialing Boards Workgroup and Jeff Williams chair of this workgroup provided the findings and recommendations. Jennifer Lemoine questioned the finding of - *it takes a lengthy amount of time for new RN/LPN graduates to receive their testing dates and it also takes a lengthy amount of time for the state board to post their active status for verification on the state board website for employers to verify*. Dr. Steib indicated that this was the qualitative information provided by the respondents of the survey launched by the study group. She also indicated that only statements made multiple times by respondents were included. She indicated that she would verify to be certain.

There was discussion around clarity of the recommendation of *each nursing program should be treated as one program even if there are multiple sites. This would loosen the burden of dues and fees to the PN Board*. Dr. Steib indicated that this recommendation was geared toward community colleges which may offer the PN program at multiple locations. Because they offer the program at multiple sites they have to pay dues and fees for each site the PN program is offered. There was additional discussion around the structure which requires two dedicated PN employees even if the program only has very few students. It was referenced that if a program has six students there was still a requirement to have 2 full-time staff for the program. It was stated that this would be further reviewed. There was much discussion on the findings and recommendations for the Education and Licensure/Credentialing Boards Workgroup.

Dr. Steib introduced the Workforce Workgroup and Dr. Ahnyel Burkes, chair of the workgroup provided the findings and recommendations. There was much discussion around the findings and recommendations of the Workforce Workgroup.

Dr. Steib introduced the Funding Workgroup and Nicole Coarsey, chair of the workgroup provided the findings and recommendations. Representative Turner mentioned available funding and indicated that we should reference the \$25 million provided by the Louisiana Legislature last legislative session to Louisiana Community and Technical College System.

Dr. Steib thanked the workgroup chairs and the work of the workgroups. She asked the workgroup chairs to forward to her any changes and amendments to findings and recommendations that were discussed during the review of the document.

Dr. Steib read through the conclusions and future work of the draft report. Representative Turner indicated that he would like to see the creation of a committee that would consist of licensure boards, members of higher education, healthcare providers, committees related to healthcare, and healthcare workers that would meet semi-annually. The purpose of this cross-functional committee is to address challenges, opportunities, workforce and educational needs and outcomes. Dr. Steib stated that she would include this as a recommendation for future work.

Review of Items from the Last Discussion

Dr. Steib stated that several items in the document were removed and placed in what she referred to as the “parking lot” so that the study group could have more time to discuss. Dr. Steib directed the group to the PowerPoint which had three items listed. The first item was to *Allow registered nursing candidates who do not successfully pass the NCLEX-RN the opportunity to take the NCLEX-PN, this would allow nursing students to go right to work.* There was robust and substantial conversation around this item. It was decided by the group that this item would be moved to a workforce recommendation.

The study group then discussed item # 2 *Allow first-year RN nursing students the opportunity to take the NCLEX –PN.* After much discussion related to the pros and cons of such a recommendation and the instructional design of programs that would not align with this recommendation, it was agreed that the language of the recommendation would be to request LSBPNE and Higher Education institutions would conduct a study to determine if there are opportunities for students to meet the PN standards and sit for NCLEX -PN.

The study group then discussed item #3 *Have all nursing programs adhere to 1:10 preceptor ratio.* After much discussion, it was decided that this was not a recommendation the HR 155 study group would support.

The study group discussed passage rates of NCLEX RN and the number of times a candidate can take the exam. After much discussion, it was decided that a recommendation from the study group should address increasing the number of times an individual should take the exam. Dr. Steib asked Dr. Ahnyel Burkes to craft the recommendation. Dr. Burkes agreed.

Next Steps

Dr. Steib discussed the next steps which is for her to make the necessary corrections to the document and for her and Michele Sutton to meet with Representative Turner. She did also mention that before the document would be submitted we would need a vote of the committee. She indicated that she would be in touch with next steps as it relates to the document.

Public Comment

Christina Costraza provided comments related to the passage rates of PN students and she provided other information related to PN Board

Keli Williams provided comments related to boards, committees and legislature needing to be on the same page.

Dr. Steib adjourned the meeting at 11:58 a.m.