



# Office of the Governor

JIM GIBBONS  
GOVERNOR

May 23, 2009

The Honorable Barbara Buckley  
Speaker of the Assembly  
Legislative Building  
401 South Carson Street  
Carson City, NV 89701

**RE: Assembly Bill 121 of the 75<sup>th</sup> Legislative Session**

Dear Speaker Buckley,

I am herewith forwarding to you, for filing within the constitutional time limit and without my approval, Assembly Bill 121, which is entitled:

AN ACT relating to health care facilities; requiring certain hospitals in larger counties to establish a staffing committee; requiring certain health care facilities to make available to the Health Division of the Department of Health and Human Services a documented staffing plan; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

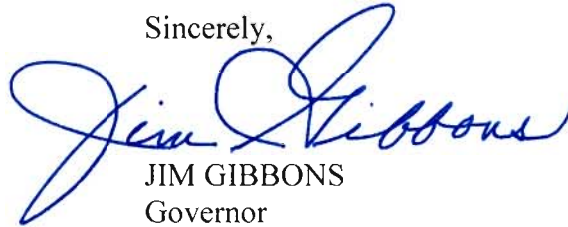
This bill mandates that each hospital in larger counties form a staffing committee to establish a staffing plan that addresses certain items such as nurse staffing ratios. A hospital's license to operate is conditioned on the submission of such a staffing plan.

Although Assembly Bill 121 purports to address hospital staffing needs to ensure adequate patient care, the bill instead unnecessarily legislates in an area that should be addressed by medical professionals and health care management. Assembly Bill 121 could dramatically increase the costs of health care without a corresponding increase in levels and quality of service.

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For these reasons, I hereby exercise my constitutional grant of authority and veto  
Assembly Bill 121.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jim Gibbons". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first and last names being clearly legible.

JIM GIBBONS  
Governor

Enclosure

Cc: The Honorable Steven Horsford, Senate Majority Leader (without enclosure)  
The Honorable Ross Miller, Secretary of State (without enclosure)  
Susan Furlong Reil, Chief Clerk of the Assembly (without enclosure)  
Claire J. Clift, Secretary of the Senate (without enclosure)  
Brenda Erdoes, Esq., Legislative Counsel (without enclosure)