

**RESOLUTION**

**National Federation Assembly**

May 16 -17, 2011

**RESOLUTION: # 005**

**SUBJECT: SAFE STAFFING LEVELS**

**WHEREAS,** Safe staffing standards and nurse-to-patient ratios are issues of concern to all staff nurses, and

**WHEREAS,** Current health services research continues to demonstrate that higher numbers of Registered Nurses available to care for patients lead to better patient outcomes with less morbidity, mortality and fewer complications, and

**WHEREAS,** Improvements in safety of staff, job satisfaction and reduction of workplace injuries have also been directly linked to higher nurse retention and staffing levels, and

**WHEREAS,** Development of minimum nurse staffing standards and implementation of staffing plans for nursing services are essential to ensure that the classifications, skills, experiences and numbers of health care professional providing direct patient care are sufficient to meet the needs of patients, and

**BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED,**

That the NFN draft and sponsor safe staffing legislation and/or other safe staffing public policies to safeguard the public and support Registered Nurses and assistive nursing personnel, and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,**

That these public policies require each institution that provides care for patients to include direct care registered nurses in the development and ongoing evaluation of facility specific staffing plans, and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,**

That NFN support efforts of its NLOs in the enforcement of existing and the advocacy of new nurse staffing laws and/or regulations.