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Safe Patient Limits in the ICU - IT'S THE LAW!

- A new law setting safe patient limits for ALL ICU nurses is now in effect and all hospitals must comply with the law.
- The new law requires that a nurse be assigned **one patient at a time or a second patient only if the staff nurses on the unit have assessed that it is safe for both patients.**

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- Manager and supervisors have a say in your assignment ONLY in those instances where you and your colleagues disagree on the assessment of patients.
- In no instance can you be assigned a third patient, and in no instance can your patient assignment be increased due to a nurse going on break or a nurse leaving the unit with another patient.
- If a manager or supervisor attempts to overrule your patient assessment and forces you to accept a second patient, inform them that they are violating state law and you intend to report the violation to the State's Health Policy Commission and the DPH.
- If management persists in violating the law, fill out the Violation of the ICU Law form, and the MNA will file this complaint with the HPC and DPH.

 MNA