

February 16, 2015

Support SB 469 – A Amendments

Chair Monnes-Anderson members of the committee, for the record my name is Samantha Stimpson I am a member of SEIU Local 49 and a Certified Nursing Assistant II (CNAII) at Albany General Hospital in Albany Oregon.

I am very dedicated to providing the best quality care for my patients at the hospital. I think it's important that we have the time and resources to care for our patients and keep ourselves safe. Understaffing is a danger to our patients and our staff.

I have been a CNA at Albany for just a year and I have already injured my back. A patient grabbed my neck and wouldn't let go. I maneuvered out of the hold but injured myself in the process. It was on the night shift and there was no one who could have helped me.

I recently transferred to the day shift and on days I can have up to ten patients at a time, on nights the workload can be larger because there are fewer staff. I guess people think patients are sleeping at night, but in a hospital patients are there because they are sicker than most other people and need care throughout the day and the night.

I support senate bill 469 with the amendments, because I think when it comes to staffing decisions CNAII like me should have some input into the process, there should be real enforcement of our current staffing laws to protect myself and patients.

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