

Submitter: Renee Perry
On Behalf Of: District 15 Constituent Requesting Anonymity
Committee: House Committee On Judiciary
Measure: HB4142

Shelly —

I've been following your posts about health care workers and the abuse they suffer with interest. As you may (or may not) know, (NAME REMOVED FOR PRIVACY) has been working as a CNA at Good Sam hospital in Corvallis for about a year now. She is good at her job and has received many commendations for the work she has done.

However, I have been shocked at the lack of protection she receives on the job. She has come home talking about being hit, kicked so hard she thought her ribs were broken, bitten, and many other forms of physical abuse from patients. I have spent many nights wondering (and praying) if she will make it through without some sort of life-threatening injury. As you know, she is pretty small physically (5 foot 3 inches and 110 pounds) and she routinely got put into situations where she was alone with large, hostile men for hours at a time. I know God protected her but I could not believe that someone wasn't trying to protect her more at work. I wanted to call someone but didn't want to be "that dad".

Just my two cents worth. I really couldn't believe how dangerous her job was. She has now quit and is moving to Idaho so Oregon has lost another quality health care worker because of the system in place here.

Thanks for listening and thanks for the job you do representing the rest of us.