

Submitter: Shane Burley

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Behavioral Health and Health Care

Measure: HB2697

I want to show my support for the safe staffing bill for Oregon hospitals, and particularly to show support for enforcement. Both of my parents died at Oregon hospitals and the under staffing levels made it very unclear if their situations could have been prevented. Recently, my wife was diagnosed with cancer, and because the hospital was so understaffed, the ambulatory surgical center ended up having to cover for emergency hospital based surgeries. This forced my wife's cancer surgery to be pushed back in the schedule, and by the time she was brought in for her surgery, her cancer had spread. This is what the cost of understaffing the hospital is, and it is up to the hospital to live up to their promise by doing whatever is necessary to guarantee safe staffing. Our lives are depending on it. Thank you.