

Submitter: Victoria Edwards

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Behavioral Health and Health Care

Measure: HB2697

We are significantly reduced in staff which greatly impacts patients in a negative & often, harmful way. I have stroke & brain injury patients waiting for months to get an eval, then waiting more weeks for actual therapy/treatment. This impacts the recovery process, as stroke pts make fastest/best recovery in the earliest, most critical time period. We also have swallowing pts who are having difficulty eating & drinking safely-who rare at risk for choking or getting aspiration pneumonia. These are the most serious pts, others are needing help with their voice & speech-which impacts their ability to work