

Submitter: Victoria Edwards

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Behavioral Health and Health Care

Measure: HB2697

There is a significant need for more speech language pathologists. We are greatly understaffed which means patients must wait months to get in for an evaluation & then several more weeks to begin treatment. This is very detrimental to all patients, but especially those who are post stroke & brain injury. Time is of an essence to make the best progress. We also work w/ pts who have swallowing issues. They are at risk for choking, as well as aspiration pneumonia if not seen in a timely manner.