

Submitter: Megan Spencer

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Behavioral Health and Health Care

Measure: HB2697

As a nurse who has worked in healthcare for a couple years I feel safe staffing is important because when nurses are pushed past their limits to keep taking more patients it puts all of the patients lives at risk. Nurses are only able to juggle so much and if they continue to be pushed you will continue to see more and more nurses leave the field entirely leaving everyone at risk. I have personally left jobs where I was pushed to a limit where I at one point had to take care of 45 patients. I had to quickly leave that job as I felt my employer did not care about my health or the patients and only cared about the financial gain by requiring nurses to take an unsafe number of patients. Many hospitals require units to have a break nurse therefore one nurse is not stuck covering double the amount of patients they should. Safe staffing not only protects the nurses it protects the patient and the hospital.