

Submitter: Melissa Brodahl

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Behavioral Health and Health Care

Measure: HB2697

I have worked at Providence Portland Medical Center for 25 years. I have seen the nurse to patient ratio increase significantly not only in number of patients but also the acuity of the patients. Nurses routinely miss their meal and rest break and many work 12 hour shifts. Nurses fear reporting missed meal and rest breaks as we are told "you're not managing your time well."

In addition to increased patient load and acuity, we have been understaffed since long before the pandemic started. The pandemic, of course, exasperated the staffing shortages.

I am writing to ask you to pass this bill before we loose even more of the nursing workforce to early retirement/changing careers.

Thank you for listening to my concerns,  
Melissa Brodahl RNC