

Submitter: Lindsey Rios

On Behalf Of: Express healthcare

Committee: House Committee On Behavioral Health and Health Care

Measure: HB2665

Prior to Covid staffing was already an issue a lot of the time. Covid took that to an absolute all of the time. Staff need support and money is what can make that happen. When our jobs are so emotionally and physically hard, pay can make it doable. Capping pay will cap the staff willing to work. Capping pay will make our already jobs more difficult and even make more people quit. The only reason I am working at the moment is because of the wage. It has to be worth it to me to put myself out there day in and out. I show up because of the wage, because Covid broke so many of us I know it is even harder work with limited staff and experienced staff daily. However, because of my skill level I am able to be employed and flexible to work many areas of high acuity which is why I am able to do travel nursing and get the higher wage. If it caps I will stop working or travel farther out of the area to get paid the higher wage.