

Submitter: Debbie Sanchez
On Behalf Of:
Committee: House Committee On Judiciary
Measure: HB4088

As a charge RN at a hospital in Portland Oregon, I personally have been a victim of assault, both mentally, and physically. I remember one particular incident where a patient who had been waiting to see a provider, got angry as he was waiting. He started verbally abusing staff, by yelling and screaming. When I intervened by asking him to stop yelling at our staff, he lunged at me, and was restrained by our security staff. He then proceeded to tell me that he was going to come back and kill me with a AR15. He was arrested after having a medical screening exam. This event was terrifying. I was concerned that he would present and carry out his threat. At my hospital we have one metal detector, and on a daily basis, we ask visitors and patients with guns, knives, weapons to remove these items.

Being injured while carrying for a patient goes against the reason I became a care giver. I shouldn't have to worry about my life while providing care for patients, and their families.