

Submitter: Viktoria Koskenoja

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Health Care

Measure: HB4130

I am a physician who has watched corporate practice of medicine harm patients particularly in rural areas. When our local community hospital was taken over by private equity, quality and safety became compromised in order to make more money for shareholders. Because admitting children to the hospital doesn't make as much money for the hospital as admitting an adult, the administration stopped nurses from being trained in pediatric care, meaning children have to be flown or driven many hours away to other hospitals for simple problems we used to care for locally. Nursing hours have been cut to the bone, resulting in more falls, medication errors, and dangerously low levels of monitoring of critically ill patients.