

Submitter: Kelly MacLennan
On Behalf Of: ONA
Committee: Senate Committee On Health Care
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB1570

Hello,

I am in support of bill 1570-1. I am a nurse working in an ICU and have heard the stories about nurses in my city dealing with ICE in their ERs. It is already a difficult job making sure you check everything on your patient and don't miss anything in order to keep them alive. Even when they seem stable, things can quickly turn. I've tried imagining myself as the nurse taking care of a patient who has been detained by ICE, with an ICE agent standing over my shoulder, interfering with care and violating HIPPA. It's a terrifying image. I can imagine how stressful it would be to make sure this patient is getting the care they deserve and advocating for them, but also terrifying to defy the ICE agents that act as though the laws do not apply to them. I would fear for my life and I, and no other nurse or patient, should have to fear that inside the hospital. I want my patients to trust me and all members of the hospital that they'll get the care they all deserve. No person should have to fear getting healthcare because of immigration enforcement.