

Submitter: Sophie Krensky

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Health Care

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB4074

I am a Labor & Delivery nurse practicing at OHSU in Portland, Oregon. I'm writing to oppose this law. My unit is robustly staffed according to AWHONN standards, which outlines safe staffing ratios for all scenarios within an antepartum, intrapartum, and postpartum setting. Being able to focus on an appropriate number of patients given their acuity means I can give my full time, attention, and clinical judgment to patients during one of the most important days of their life. It also makes us resilient to absorb emergencies that happen with little warning, as is the nature of high-risk obstetrics. The idea that Oregon, a leader in hospital workplace standards and safety, would chip away at our safe staffing laws is shameful and backwards. Every nurse deserves a safely staffed unit, and every patient and family deserves a nurse whose attention is appropriately allocated among patients.