

Submitter: Lory Reese  
On Behalf Of:  
Committee: House Committee On Health Care  
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB4074

HB 4047 takes us backwards from the groundbreaking legislation of HB 2697. Removing consequences for failure to adhere to safe staffing levels, letting hospitals self attest regarding staffing and removing agency authority to suspend or revoke the licenses of hospitals in violation does not serve the people of Oregon and will not improve outcomes for either patients or staff.

I've worked at bedside in a local hospital for over 20 years. 12 hour shifts. For many of those years, the shifts I had without a break were more common than not. I was told to keep a granola bar in my pocket in case I couldn't get a break. In my unit, there was no upper limit on the number of patients I was required to manage during times of short or inadequate staffing. I've seen so many caregivers leave the bedside because the work was just brutal, the feeling of not having the time and attention every vulnerable patient deserves is terrible. It's not sustainable.

If hospitals could be trusted to look after staffing and adequate care for their inpatients we never would have needed HB 2697 in the first place. Please don't even consider taking us backwards. Lory Reese RRT