

Submitter: Katrina Thompson

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Health Care

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB4074

My role as a rapid response nurse reaches every corner and patient in the hospital. Current nurse staff ratios are not even adequate for the acuity that is constantly coming through the emergency department and out of the operating rooms. These patients need the care provided by not only the nurses but the ancillary staff from the CNA's to care management, therapists to social workers. Sending them out without a plan in place just makes them return sicker than they were. Early recognition and response to patients deteriorating can only be achieved by having healthcare members at the bedside. Units that have higher patient ratios have delays in recognition, treatment and higher incidence of needing transfer to critical care units. It behooves all that live in this state to understand and support a responsible patient ratios where no patient gets left behind. The nurses of this state didn't not fight for ratios to do nothing, they fought so they could do MORE!