

Submitter: Melissa Clifton

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Health Care

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB4074

As a current RN working before and after the original law was approved, I cannot express how much the staffing law helped provide not only a safer work environment for the nursing staff, but also a safer environment to heal in for the patients. The changes proposed to the law will take us backwards, not forwards in providing a better and safer environment for our patients. Unless you are a nurse working on the floor next to these sick patients, you have no idea the time and energy needed to properly care for each individual patient. An administrator crunching numbers in an office only sees these patients as numbers, as we see and help the human being struggling in front of us. If a hospital is struggling with staffing and meeting the requirements, that is on them. There's a reason they're are to fined when they cannot adequately staff. Changing the numbers of staff does not mean it becomes safe, it just means the hospitals don't want to lose their money.