



GARRETT REGIONAL  
MEDICAL CENTER



## **Senate Bill 720 – Hospitals – Clinical Staffing Committees and Plans – Establishment (Safe Staffing Act of 2025)**

Garrett Regional Medical Center respectfully submits this letter of opposition to Senate Bill 720-Hospitals-Clinical Staffing Committees and Plans—Establishment (Safe Staffing Act of 2025).

Garrett Regional Medical Center is a small community hospital in Western MD, where we have consistently provided safe levels of staffing and patient care through our frontline self governance and unit based committees. Our staff have always been able to provide suggestions and improvements for the process of delivering safe patient care.

This bill would put additional challenges on small community based hospitals and the administrative burden to carry out these regulations. It would also put additional strain on the frontline staff with the amount of updates that would be needed to comply with the regulations in this bill. Our staffing model and ratio changes multiple times throughout the day to meet the patient acuity levels and we have administrative oversight 24/7 through supervisors and leaders to make sure staffing ratios are safe and appropriate.

We actively engage with our staff regarding staffing needs and concerns they have. We consistently have over 90% participation in our staff engagement survey scores. We respectfully ask for the opposition of this bill as many hospitals have processes in place to ensure safe staffing levels and the extra work and requirements would be more burden placed on the healthcare system.

Sincerely,

Kendra Thayer MSN, FACHE  
Chief Nursing Officer/VP Patient Care Services  
Garrett Regional Medical Center  
251 North Fourth Street  
Oakland, MD 21550