

I am Aliyah, a Maryland emergency PCT speaking on behalf of myself.

I am in favor of SB568 because as a healthcare worker who comes in everyday to assist the public I don't think it's justified to be threatened at work and to be attacked without that individual having serious consequences. Working in the emergency department has its challenges like all other units but to be spat on by a person, to have urine thrown at you, and to be bashed in the head enough where you need over forty stitches is criminal and should be treated as such. Some of you on the panel who are reading my testimony today may have children who are healthcare workers. Wouldn't you want this bill to be passed in order to keep them safe while they are at work? I am someone's child and my co-workers have children of their own that they'd like to come home too unharmed. Verbal and physical assaults/threats cause many disruptions within the working environment. They slow down work production, if someone on staff gets injured enough to have to go home early then the unit would be understaffed and patient care would come to a halt due to not having the necessary amount of staff needed to make the unit run efficiently. Threats can also cause distress to other patients for they could get caught in the crossfire and could potentially become injured as well. Many patients who have gotten violent with the staff I've seen nurses not wanting to assist that patient anymore because who wants to work in an environment like that? If the threats continue to interfere with our work and the patients care then who will want to continue coming to any hospital knowing their safety is jeopardized.

Thank you,

Aliyah Briscoe.

[briscoe1228@icloud.com](mailto:briscoe1228@icloud.com)

1734 Carriage Court, Severn, MD, 21144.