

Urging a favorable report for HB905, the Safe Staffing Act of 2025

I am writing today to urge passage of HB905, the Safe Staffing Act of 2025.

I am a long time MD resident and a former health researcher. I am currently a Unitarian Universalist minister.

I have recently experienced an oddly long visit to the ER at Shady Grove Adventist. On February 11 of this year my GP called to tell me that a routine lab result was worrisome. She told me to go to the ER and that she would have a fax awaiting me at the ER explaining the situation and requesting IV fluids. I got there at about 11:30 on a Tuesday. I was released close to 6 hours later having gotten the redo of the lab work (and results) and the IV fluids and I got an xray, which determined that I had walking pneumonia. Even the docs were apologizing for slow turnaround on my visit.

I am grateful for the ER team discovering my pneumonia. And it was a very long visit for a mid-day low traffic time of day. Maryland can do better.

Had HB905 been in place, my experience would have been quite different:

- Because the Safe Staffing Bill will establish **safe staffing committees** comprised of direct care workers and others at each hospital the portion of the delay in my experience would be minimized.
- Adventist's staffing committee would have developed a **clinical staffing plan** would have established guidelines for appropriate staffing, based on the number of patients and their acuity.

We can do better!

Rev. Dr. Alexa Fraser

503 Mannakee St. Rockville MD 20850