

Testimony in Favor of HB0905/SB0720 – The Safe Staffing Act of 2025

My name is Lauren Noel, and I am a registered nurse with almost 4 years of experience caring for pre- and post-operative patients in Cardiac Surgery. I want to express my strong support for HB0905/SB0720, the Safe Staffing Act of 2025.

In my years as a nurse, I have personally experienced the consequences of inadequate staffing ratios. When hospitals fail to provide appropriate staffing levels, patient care suffers, medical errors increase, and nurses experience overwhelming stress and burnout. The reality is that nurses are leaving the profession at an alarming rate—not because they don't love patient care, but because they are physically and emotionally exhausted from trying to provide quality care under impossible conditions.

This legislation is a critical step toward addressing this crisis. By requiring that direct patient care providers—such as nurses, nursing assistants, and other essential staff—have representation on hospital staffing committees, HB0905/SB0720 ensures that staffing decisions are made with real-world experience and patient safety in mind. Each hospital unit has unique needs based on patient acuity, and staffing grids must reflect that complexity.

Safe staffing is not just about improving working conditions for nurses—it is about ensuring that patients receive the high-quality care they deserve. Thoughtful and evidence-based staffing policies lead to better patient outcomes, lower readmission rates, and a more sustainable workforce.

I urge this committee to pass HB0905/SB0720 and take a stand for patient safety and healthcare worker well-being. Thank you for your time and consideration.