



SB411/HB624
Safe Staffing Act of 2026
Position: **FAV**

My name is Antonia Brooks. I'm a Physical Medicine Rehabilitation Tech II in the Intensive Care Unit, and a member of 1199SEIU. I am a healthcare worker because I care about people, and I believe healthcare is a human right. Short staffing delays that right. I urge a **favorable** report on The Safe Staffing Act of 2026.

Short staffing is getting worse every year. At my hospital, there are long emergency department wait times and patients are being treated in the hallways. I work short staffed at least twice a week. I treat 24 patients per day, helping them walk and sit up, and providing respiratory assistance. On days we are short, I assist in other areas as well, so I spend half as much time with my patients on those days. Treatments that patients are supposed to receive daily often get postponed.

We are short staffed because healthcare workers are underpaid and overworked. High patient volume and running from building to building is exhausting. New workers quit soon after being hired when they are asked to take on work outside of the job description. Some call the hiring process false advertising.

When workers bring our concerns about staffing to management, they act like they are listening, but they don't use our suggestions, so the problem isn't getting solved. The Safe Staffing Act will change that by giving workers like me a real opportunity to bring our solutions to the table. I'm excited to volunteer to serve on a safe staffing committee when this bill passes! Please vote YES on The Safe Staffing Act. Thank you.

In Unity,

Antonia Brooks