



SB663/HB1414
Nursing Home Staffing Crisis Funding Act of 2026
Position: **FAV**

To Madame Chair and Members of the Committee,

My name is Jenae Mixon. I've been a Certified Nursing Assistant and Med-Tech at a Long-Term Care facility in Baltimore for six years, working in memory care. I am so delighted by my residents. Working for them makes my day. Unfortunately, our facility is short staffed twice a week on average. That's why I support the Nursing Home Staffing Crisis Funding Act and urge a **favorable** report on this bill.

When my facility is short, residents receive their meals late and they have to wait for assistance with basic hygiene. That is harmful for residents because they need food regularly and can develop rashes or bedsores if they aren't changed promptly. I want my residents to live high-quality lives. That is challenging when there aren't enough workers to provide timely care.

Workers don't feel appreciated when we are faced with chronic understaffing. We are overworked when we are short, that makes us tired which increases call outs, and then we are even more short staffed. I've always been an outgoing person. I live my best life when I'm able to be social and interact with community. But with short staffing, all I can do when I get home is take a bath and go to bed. On my days off, I sleep the whole day away. It's difficult to even find the energy to cook and clean, let alone have a social life or recreation which is so important for my wellness.

Long-Term Care workers are underpaid for the amount of work we do while short staffed. I stay working in this field because I have bonded with my residents, and I don't want to leave them. It feels like management is taking advantage of workers with big hearts by making us fight tooth and nail for wage increases knowing we don't want to make short staffing even worse for our residents by quitting.

The facility where I work is owned by a private equity firm. We need the Nursing Home Staffing Crisis Funding Act because it would require 75% of Medicaid dollars the facility receives go to direct care. Long term care should be about CARE, not about profit. Please vote YES on this bill. Thank you.

In Unity,

Jenae Mixon