



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

Madame Chair and Members of the Committee,

My name is Betty McRae. I've worked at a hospital for 25 years. I started working in the transportation department but have spent most of my time working in the food service department. I work in catering on the 6:30am-3pm shift, providing service to the whole hospital. I urge a **favorable** report on the Safe Staffing Act.

We work short almost every day. Management pulls us from our regular jobs to cover other jobs in addition to our work. They don't help; they just dictate. Workers do what we have to do because we want everything to be smooth for our patients, but we get burnt out halfway through the shift because our jobs are so physically demanding. The burden falls most on senior workers. Many workers feel like quitting sometimes because of being overworked, undervalued and short staffed. Often we are required to stay passed our shift time to finish the work load. The bottom of my shoes are worn out from being on my feet so much. It's hard to take breaks because there's so much that needs to be done.

I recently sprained my finger when a refrigerator drawer fell on my hand because the people cleaning the door were rushing due to short staffing. They didn't secure the door properly because they were trying to finish the task as quickly as possible to get on to the next one. I don't blame my coworkers though. They would get in trouble if not all the work is done even when there aren't enough workers to do it. I had to call out for two days because my hand was so swollen.

If we had a safe staffing committee, more people would want to work here. It would allow us to build a team and give workers real respect. Please vote **YES** on the Safe Staffing Act.

In Unity,

Betty McRae