

Submitter: Debbie Sanchez
On Behalf Of:
Committee: House Committee On Judiciary
Measure: HB4142

As a RN in the Emergency Department I have witnessed many assaults while providing care to patients, and their families. These assaults occur from patients, and families whom are intoxicated, altered from drugs, psychosis, and many times patients who have no regard for medical people whom are trying to take care of them. Our security officers are called multiple times per day to events called code grey which is a term used for a person whom is causing harm to medical staff. I went into nursing to make a difference in patients lives, and to help take care of them. I shouldn't have to fear going to work over being hurt, and ending my career d/t physical injury. On a daily basis we have to call local law enforcement to help protect us from harm while trying to discharge patients whom do not want to leave. I currently work with a mental health tech whom as been on leave because he was assaulted, and has been having a hard time coming back to work. A medical professional shouldn't be afraid to come to work for fear over injury. I have to take a yearly class called management of physically assaultive behavior. A medical professional shouldn't have to learn how to protect themselves to avoid injury of choking, strangulation, and harm . It is time for people to be held accountable for their actions. This bill would help this.