

Submitter: Marlaina Hoerr

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Behavioral Health and Health Care

Measure: HB2697

This bill is so important to all parties involved! As an RN in an understaffed urgent care, this year we have had to close early and actually turn people away region-wide as we reach overcapacity and can no longer see patients. As a result, The ER is packed with people wanting minor non-emergent care, people wait 3 to 6+ hours to be seen, and staff are completely burnt out with the overwhelming work while also having to deal with angry people on top of everything else. We were called "heroes" during the pandemic for just simply doing our jobs, and now we are once again being stressed, yelled at and even physically assaulted for things that are completely out of our control as our employer and legislators continue to deny us safe staffing. I honestly can't fathom a reason as to why anyone would allow this to continue. Please help us to help you (and all those who vote for you)- one day, it will be you needing the help and me telling you that we can't see you due to reaching capacity. Health care is a basic human right, and it's time our government threw their full support at it to help force our employers to do the same!