

Submitter: Adam McBride-Smith

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Behavioral Health and Health Care

Measure: HB2697

My wife has MS and we regularly spend time at local clinics and hospitals receiving treatment. This issue is important to me because I want my family, and all Oregonians, to get the care we need. We need hospitals that are up to the task of providing safe and compassionate care. When nurses and other healthcare professionals face understaffing it reduces the quality of care that we all receive. The state has a role to play here and must step forward to compel hospitals to implement safe staffing standards. Without a willingness to perform this role, the state is leaving the decision to hospital administrators who have clearly put profit before patient and staff needs in the past, and will continue to do so in the future. As a patient, I trust nurses, techs, clinicians, and other health workers over hospital administrators. And right now health workers are saying loud and clear that they have had enough.