

Submitter: David Stylianou

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Behavioral Health and Health Care

Measure: HB2697

I write in support of the staffing legislation before you. Hospitals and their healthcare systems have had decades to ensure better, safer staffing in their facilities. The problem isn't that their aren't solutions to short-staffing issues, but that they have never voluntarily taken them. In fact, they exacerbate the issue by creating impossible working conditions for people who devote their professional lives to helping others.

I've followed the media coverage of this bill and find missing anything asking why hospitals aren't doing everything they can do recruit and retain an ample number of employees. They sit on huge cash reserves and opt not to spend that money on frontline caregivers. All this at the expense of the very people they employ and the communities they serve. In the corporate world they occupy, when you can't find enough help, you pay more. You don't fight the very rules that would require you to pay more to fix the problem they themselves created.

Who in the legislature would trust the hospital alone to make healthcare decisions when they have a huge financial stake in those very decisions? You are in a position to help right now. Please move this legislation forward for frontline caregivers. We don't have more time to waste. Your decision will literally save lives or let them needlessly die.

Sincerely,
David