

Submitter: Nikki Bailey

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Behavioral Health and Health Care

Measure: HB2697

I have been a Maternal-Child RN in Oregon for 24 years. I am so excited to see this bill put forward to protect our community members!!! I see first hand the debates regarding staffing within the hospital between staff and administrators. The unit I work on has a staffing plan that complies with the Oregon Health Authority safe staffing SB469 however violations of this law that are reported to OHA are lost in the system and our administrators are not held accountable to them. We should be following AWHONN standards of care while providing care to our moms and babies. This includes not going over defined nurse to patient ratios, including during meal and rest breaks. We finally had a system in place for the last few years that allowed compliant break coverage but our administrators just altered that system and now we are violating our staffing plan every day. There are numerous studies out there proving the safety impact of healthcare workers who are not getting their meal and rest breaks. We provide care that is incredibly taxing mentally, physically and emotionally. We are not asking for the moon here!!! We are asking for your support in holding hospital administrators accountable to putting safe patient care ahead of financial gain. We are asking you to protect our community members during their most vulnerable times of life!!!

Sincerely,
Nikki Bailey