

Submitter: Anne Beltman

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Behavioral Health and Health Care

Measure: HB2697

To whom it may concern,

I have been a physical therapist in Oregon for nearly 30 years. I am deeply concerned about the recent trend in healthcare. I have always believed that I personally have been able to provide quality care for my patients and also that the medical system I work for has been able to do that for not only me, but the other patients as well.

More recently, I can no longer say that. I, as well as my colleagues, have been working short handed, with inadequate resources, and marginal support. We are way beyond burn out. I now see choices being made about a person's healthcare more based on the need to "get them out of the hospital" or prioritization of which patient will get not get seen/treated as there are insufficient staffing and resources to actually provide the care that patients need. There is not a day that goes by that I am not having to apologize to a patient for lack of timely, appropriate care, and by care, it can be a simple basic need (treatment, food, clean rooms, procedures, etc...) We do the best we can, but it is a far cry from what we are used to and that patient's expect or deserve.

Please, please, please, approve this bill. It is time to demand that there be safe staffing so that healthcare workers and the patients and families that rely on them can continue to provide/receive something more than substandard/crisis medical care. Thank you.

Anne Beltman, DPT