

Submitter: Russell Lum
On Behalf Of: Oregon Nurse
Committee: House Committee On Behavioral Health and Health Care
Measure: HB2697

We are running on skeleton crews. As a rapid response nurse, I interact with nurses on every unit. Many (especially in acute care) rarely have the coverage to take their breaks and they are so stressed and exhausted. When it's raised at bed board, the response is a shrug and trying to spread around the staff that are here. There isn't enough skin in the game for our hospital to staff to the state mandated and safe level- running us on less staff gives them a fiscal advantage, while depriving our patients the care that they need and us the breaks that we need to sustain a career in this field. Not doing so will land us in a worse situation than we are now. -RN in Bend