

Submitter: Sabrina na

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Behavioral Health and Health Care

Measure: HB2665

Over the past few years, inflation has affected us all negatively, some more than others. Minimum necessities required to survive such as food and housing have become nearly impossible to afford. I have been a CNA for over a year and in the health care setting for longer. I am pursuing a degree in nursing and even with the wages I am currently making, I find myself having to work 12 hour days while I attend school full time and I am still losing money every month after paying all my bills. Being middle class, I receive no assistance from the government and am forced to take out loans in order to pursue my career which will only leave me paying more money and being in debt after graduation. I have to live with two roommates to be able to afford housing and I can only imagine what people who have children and are also trying to go to school or work a healthcare job are experiencing. A wage cap will only create more financial struggles among those working in the healthcare setting. We are already experiencing a nursing shortage and an overall staffing shortage in the healthcare field, limiting healthcare workers wages will result in an even greater shortage. Without staffing agencies to fill shifts in facilities that are short staffed, staffing crisis' will become worse, workers will become even more overworked and burned out, and patients will not receive the care they deserve. I fear to imagine what our healthcare system will look like if this bill is passed. This is no solution but rather a contribution to an already existent problem.