

Submitter: Andrea Swank

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Behavioral Health and Health Care

Measure: HB2665

Hello my name is Andrea Swank I've been doing nursing work with agency for 8 years now, but I been in the nursing industries since 2006!

I have made it my life purpose to serve my community and the elderly aging and hospice community ! This is not an easy task dealing and working for striving for hey highest quality of life that I can help provide for these people that I work with through agency and art my contract with each individual community and resident . As we all well no the numbers in margins of the mentally ill it is my community as agency to provide the highest of quality of care of that you can provide. Please communities tell the family members that they have high quality of care when they are admitted into the facility, but with my knowledge and understanding of this that at times can be the farthest from the truth. I have seen a lot of neglect when it comes to house staff and knowing how to deal with the complexity of everyone's disabilities and decline I have single handed Lee helped teach people that the test and the education that I have an still the pain each and individual staff member that I have work with a pride in being able to provide the highest care that one is able to have when they are going through the decline and passing through! The cap that Congress is trying to put on agency is quite simply horrific in my mind I am one of the pillars of the community that provide the highest of care I am able to walk in and out of facilities help the staff members understand this disease and a different level because of my understanding of it and my skill set. Does my goal is when I bring to what I bring to the team when I step into the communities and I'm able to have my shift and my section is to bring an understanding knowledge care for these individuals that I have set they're lives in our hands and to duplicate my passion with the caregivers. I had the I had the honor of taking care of the longest leading a district attorney in the Portland area he passed away last month and I was able to skillfully take care of him at his end stages with his wife! I can guarantee you not everyone takes their time and energy to be solid support for the family members that are going through these transitions with their family members passing what we provide as agency does not come easy, very difficult for agency we deserve this the wage that we get to provide these skill level that is not just cookie cut . Insulting that my service that I provide would be cap with an amount of money that someone that has never dealt with these complex issues that my future is going to be cap and what I'm capable of doing in my personal life with the ability to do what I have done all these years and decades that will be minimized. If it wasn't for agency through this covid-19 pandemic these facilities that complain about the cost of agency would have had most definitely more fines that they had to deal with because of understaffed for the ratio of client per client per caregiver they would have been drowning in fines for not keeping in compliance for the ability to take care of all of the residents in the complexity of their health health

decline we came in and rescued many different facilities! We continued to make sure that the clients that we provided care for was happy healthy and had quality of life during the pandemic when the staff members of the facilities were out because of covid testing and covid related symptoms when it took between five and two weeks to come back to work we wait sure that these residents were taken care of while they were gone the facilities should have been insanely grateful because quite honestly some of these facilities of the smaller communities could have possibly been shut down because of covid itself and lack of Staffing and being able to take last minute shifts that no one else can take to provide for these Residence. If you if you take agency pay away then you also take quality of life away !