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On Behalf Of: ToCura Healthcare Staffing
Committee: House Committee On Behavioral Health and Health Care
Measure: HB2665

To help solve the complaints of high bill rates simply quit working with that staffing agency, do not have travelers from out of state come in and demand stipends. NEGOTIATE your contracts with ethical staffing agencies, work with local companies such as ToCura who has disrupted the horrible experience many facilities and healthcare workers have experienced with other agencies. Each one will tell you that they prefer working with us, our rates are not outrageous, and they always get ahold of me when needed. I take my work seriously; we listen to the needs of the facility and adjust accordingly. I have spent many late nights working with EDs and Administrators to find coverage and that alone sets us apart.

We are ethical, I have provided staff who are local with some who travel to rural areas such as The Dalles, Redmond, the Oregon Coast and not once have we increased the facilities bill rate to adjust for our staff. Our staff are paid a flat hourly rate and mileage, if need be, we do not offer stipends, rental cars and flights. ToCura is ethical, local and have made a positive impact on those we work with. To cause such a negative impact on all staffing agencies due to the corrupt ways of others is not the answer. The State of Oregon is one of the biggest offenders, there are postings for travel individuals to work at the State Psych hospital where only "approved" agencies are allowed to staff. Pull the bill rates and compare the agencies who supply staff for the state vs local? Create an Ethics committee and track corrupt agencies but do not penalize the majority for a few bad experiences.

Rate caps are not the answer, if you do not agree with the rates you are being billed find a better staffing agency. No one forces companies to use certain staffing agencies unless the message from corporate does not allow to even entertain a new agency who may better align with costs. Just like healthcare staff who shop rates, staffing agencies can be shopped as well. If you do not like the rate do not work with said agency, it's as simple as that.