

Submitter: Trisha Stackhouse

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Behavioral Health and Health Care

Measure: HB2665

As a staffing professional who has been in the industry for nearly 30 years, I oppose this bill. In my experience, when rates are capped, by the legislature, a procurement office or any other entity other than a fair competitive market everyone is negatively impacted.

Staffing is a service provided to organizations that do not have the resources or ability to hire directly to keep their operations staffed. Staffing should be used as short term resource while organizations staff internally, not as a solution to staffing shortages. The failure of facilities to hire internal staff should not be blamed on staffing agencies. Employees who choose to work for staffing agencies do so because they desire the flexibility and variety they get.

Please remember when comparing wages of agency staff to regular staff you MUST compare total comp not just hourly wages. Regular staff receive many benefits that agency staff do not, such as life insurance, dental, vision, comprehensive paid vacation and sick time, tuition reimbursement, 401K matching, and more. When you calculate the cost facilities pay for these benefits and add them to hourly wages, the total comp is higher than agency.

What we need are more job seekers interested in the healthcare field and more opportunities to quickly get them the training needed! Unfortunately, when comparing career options, a new healthcare worker can make more, without having to complete any training, at Amazon.

Please consider investing legislative efforts in the root problem, the need for more opportunities to train new healthcare employees, not in legislating the staffing industry that is trying to help during this very difficult time.