

Submitter: Kelly Chancellor

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Labor and Workplace Standards

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3838

As an owner of an independent Residential Care facility I am all too aware of the impact of rising costs of labor, lease, groceries, utilities and other costs of doing business. Our community serves 16 residents. The hourly wage that is now requested by our work force has narrowed the profit margin significantly forcing us to raise our prices paid by our residents. We are committed to be slow to raise the residents cost of services to provide an affordable resource for private pay clients. As an administrator / owner I do not receive a market salary as our community cannot afford to do so. We are proud of our mission statement that directs us to give respectful care centered around our residents preferences.

Our labor costs continue to rise each year so we do our best to stay ahead to maintain profits to sustain our goals of running our business. The regulatory requirements have become more stringent in addition to reporting for Covid vaccinations and outbreaks. The work that is required of administration in addition to managing the schedule while often working the shifts of the staff that do not show up for scheduled shifts continues to place challenges in balancing compliance and quality of our care so that the residents do not feel the impact of staffing challenges. Additional expenses and regulations to the staffing component might just be a major contributor to re evaluating whether we can continue to be a strong independently owned Residential Care community provided valued and appreciated services to residents and their families who rely on us to care for their loved ones to allow them to enjoy the remaining time that they have with their loved one as a family member / not a caregiver. Please carefully consider the impact of legislating more regulations on the long term care communities who provide housing for the many residents in need of their services.