

March 18, 2025
Senate Committee on Healthcare
Re: Support SB 27

Dear Chair Patterson, Vice-Chair Hayden, and members of the committee:

My name is Angel Bautista Carranza, and I am here to share my experience with the Long-Term CareWorks apprenticeship, a program of RISE Partnership, and how it significantly impacted my career trajectory.

The program helped break financial barriers to my career advancement. Not having to pay for my education eliminated one of the biggest obstacles to pursuing a new career path. Traditional programs often come with high tuition fees, which can be prohibitive for many. By removing this financial barrier, the apprenticeship program allowed me to focus solely on my studies without the added pressure of financial strain.

In addition, the stipend provided through the apprenticeship program was a critical financial support system that enabled me to focus entirely on my studies without the added stress of managing bills and other expenses. Knowing that my financial needs were met allowed me to dedicate my full attention and effort to understanding the material and achieving my CNA licensure.

The guidance from the program's career coaches was instrumental in navigating the apprenticeship. They provided valuable insights, resources, and continuous support that helped me feel confident and well-prepared for new job situations. Their encouragement and practical advice were key factors in my success.

Without this opportunity, I would have faced numerous challenges in changing careers. Financial stress would have been a constant concern, making it difficult to concentrate on my training. The support from the career coaches would have been missed, leading to less confidence in navigating new job environments. Overall, the program being paid for allowed me to focus more on my studies and less on financial worries. Without this opportunity, the chances of leaving the program due to overwhelming stress would have been much higher. Investing in programs like this is crucial because there are always people looking to improve their careers, and financial barriers often stand in their way. This apprenticeship program helps to alleviate those barriers and provides a clear path to success.

Investing in apprenticeships like ours is a wise decision because these programs address significant financial barriers that many individuals face when seeking career advancement. By providing financial support and structured guidance, these apprenticeships open doors for people to improve their careers and contribute to the workforce in meaningful ways. It's an investment in the future of our community and economy.

Please vote yes on SB 27. Thank you.

Angel Bautista Carranza