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 Melissa Aguila, and I am writing in support of SB 27, and to write about my experience with the Long-Term Care Works CNA apprenticeship, a program of RISE Partnership.

Before joining this program, I faced significant barriers that made it difficult to focus on my education. Without the financial support the program provided, I would not have been able to focus on learning, attending my classes, and successfully completing my training. It may have been possible to find another CNA training program, but it would have required me to pay out of pocket and left me with less time to study.

This program gave me the opportunity to advance my education and start a new career with a new certification. I'm so proud that I've been able to achieve my goals with the support of my career coach, who helped me academically and believed in my potential.

This program definitely changed my life and gave me the opportunity to improve myself. I am grateful for the support and resources that made my journey possible.

Please vote yes on SB 27. Thank you.

Melissa Aguila