

Submitter:

Lisa Saucier

On Behalf Of:

Committee:

Senate Committee On Human Services

Measure, Appointment or Topic:

SB1168

Home health and hospice patients are not made equal.

Each visit is unique and can include medical and psychosocial complexity - as well and unpredictable environments, people's homes.

In one day for me, a hospice nurse, I can have multiple patients who require wound care, catheter placement, symptom management needs as well as family needs for education on caring for their home bound loved one. This is before calling the pharmacy, ordering supplies, coordination of care with the other team members. If my income security were in jeopardy because one or more of my patients were suffering and needing more of my time and expertise, would I have to choose between my family's needs or my dying patient's needs?

Home care is both an art and a science. Packing in visits with no respect to the acuity harms patients and families.