

March 19, 2025

TO: Senate Committee On Health Care

Testimony in Support of SB 537

FROM: Reggie Singerkhanee

Chair Patterson, Vice Chair Hayden, and members of the committee,

Everyday I go to work, there is always a potential I might not make it home in the morning. I work in the most dangerous and unpredictable department of the hospital. The Emergency Room. On a daily basis I experience physical and verbal abuse. Some days the occurrences are so high I lose count. I have been threatened by patients and family members that they are going to beat me, kill me or injure me in other ways. I have pulled a patient off the pavement in 20 degree weather with multiple gun shot wounds, hoping the car with no plates zooming off does not turn around. That the person who did this doesn't come and try to finish the job. By passing SB 537 we are working to prevent workplace violence, so I can go home to my family at the end of the day. I might not be able to choose who I care for, but I can advocate for these rights to keep myself, my colleagues and my patients safe. Thank you for hearing my story.

Thank you for accepting my testimony and I urge your support of SB 537.