

Submitter: Jen Culbertson
On Behalf Of:
Committee: House Committee On Health Care
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB4075

"To: State Treasurer and Lawmakers,

I am the new Chief Nursing Officer for Bay Area Hospital. I am experience CNO with large health systems. I came into this role understanding the financial challenges of the hospital. I can tell you that this hospital and community are very special. I have never worked in a town that loves their hospital as much as this town does. The facility is highly respected by our community, providers, and patients.

Over and over, I hear from the providers that the care teams here are top notch. We receive patients from the outlying critical access hospitals and provide trauma, cardiac, and other important services. This allows us to keep our patients closer to home and provide services they would otherwise have to travel hours to receive.

Please support the Bay Area Hospital's plan for restabilization this session, including the plan for refinancing existing debt. The Hospital's ongoing sustainability has been proved out through months of performance improvements, though assistance is still needed. The hospital leaders are engaged and eager to do the right thing for our hospital and community.

The alternative is to do nothing, but this risks the economic health of the region as well as local lives. It means an estimated 2,089 more patient transfers and 182 preventable deaths per year.

Your support of the Bay Area Hospital is needed now.

Respectfully,
Jen Culbertson MSN, RN, CENP
CNO"