

Submitter:

Rae Kaigler

On Behalf Of:

Committee:

House Committee On Health Care

Measure, Appointment or Topic:

HB4074

I have been on OHSU's Hospital Nurse Staffing Committee since June 2024 and have served as the direct care co-chair since June 2025. I started on the committee the month that HB2697 set as a deadline for hospitals to adopt and implement nurse staffing plans. At that time, OHSU hospital had zero approved staffing plans and a Hospital Nurse Staffing Committee at impasse. Since December 2024, OHSU's HNSC has passed 94% of our inpatient staffing plans through a process that has been largely collaborative. The staffing plans that we have passed advance safe patient care and safe work environments for nurses. Our committee has collaborated on additional projects to support accurate reporting of short staffing and staffing related problems. This success is a direct result of provisions in HB2697 mandating hospitals to reach consensus with frontline staff and to adopt and implement staffing plans. Walking back HB2697 would undo the real progress that is being made toward safe staffing and shared governance in our health care systems.