

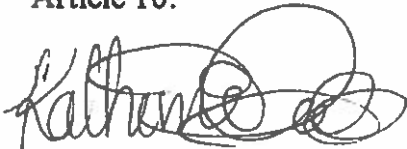
March 4, 2025

Chairman Abney,

My name is Katherine Arias, and I am Director of Social Services at Golden Crest Nursing Center for going on my first year. But I have been in the social services field for over 10 years. Golden Crest is a 152-bed, family-owned nursing home in North Providence. I am writing in support of Budget Article 10, specifically as it pertains to meaningful changes to the Nursing Home Minimum Staffing Mandate.

While I fully support the goal of ensuring high-quality care for our residents, this bill does not achieve that. As Director of Social Services, I provide support to families and residents transitioning to long term care and those families/residents residing at Golden Crest for rehab. This support not only includes emotional and psychological support but also having knowledge of community programs/services available for residents going through this new milestone of their life. All roles in a nursing home setting are very crucial to every resident to ensure we are meeting their needs and ensuring their safety. These functions are critical to the care of the residents we serve; however, the current law does not consider the work I do as direct care.

Thank you for your time to review my letter and the pledge in support of Budget Article 10.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Katherine Arias", with a large, stylized flourish at the end.

Katherine Arias, B.S.
Director of Social Services