

Chairman Abney,

My name is Krystal Zuleta , and I am a nurse/clinical manager at Golden Crest Nursing Center for 4 ½ 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 a clinical manager I oversee a unit ensuring quality resident care by implementing evidence-based practices, managing staff performance through evaluation and mentoring nurses, I also provided bedside care to the residents. 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.

The new bill ramifications would be detrimental to the care and safety of all the residents leading to a decline in the quality of resident care, increased risk of accidents and neglect, higher resident dissatisfaction, staff burnout and potential legal issues due to inadequate attention to residents needs, including risk of pressure sores, falls, malnutrition, and dehydration.

Thank you for taking the time to listen

Sincerely,

Krystal Zuleta RN

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'K. Zuleta', written over the typed name.