Dear Chaiman Abney and Committee,

My name is Lisa Renard, and I am the Rehab Manager and Physical Therapist at Golden Crest Nursing Center for the past 2 years and I have been working in the rehab/SNF industry for 27 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 Physical Therapist and Rehab Manager I do functional assessments on all residents admitted and on long term care residents that have had a decline in their overall function. Along with managing the rehab department on a daily basis to provide quality therapy services and maximize outcomes to prevent functional decline with our 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.

Thank you for reviewing this response in the support of the Budget Article 10 specifically as it pertains to meaningful changes to the Nursing Home Minimum Staffing Mandate.

Best,

Lisa Renard PT/RD