



March 3, 2026

Subject: Article 8 – Nursing Home Worker Supporting Higher Reimbursement to Protect Resident Care

Dear Chair Abney and Members of the House Finance Committee,

My name is Tenneh Nimmo-Powell, and I work in a nursing home in Rhode Island.

I care for residents who depend on us for nearly everything — getting out of bed, eating, using the bathroom, and staying clean and comfortable. These are people we know by name.

When we don't have enough staff on the floor, residents wait longer for help. They wait to be turned. They wait to get to the bathroom. They wait for someone to answer their call bell. That affects their health and their dignity.

We were told reimbursement rates would increase in a way that would help facilities meet staffing standards. The current proposal falls short of what was expected. That difference matters on the floor.

If nursing homes are going to meet safe staffing requirements, they need higher reimbursement rates. Without that support, it becomes harder to hire and keep enough staff to give residents the care they deserve.

Please strengthen Article 8 so facilities can provide safe staffing and proper care.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,
Tenneh Nimmo-Powell, CNA
Bannister Center Nursing Home