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March 22, 2025

**Subject: Support for H-5257**

Dear Honorable Members of the House Committee on Health and Human Services,

My name is Megan Lomba. I've been working at Bannister Center for 30 years, doing everything from Medical Records to being a CNA. The kind of people we care for has changed a lot. It's not just older folks anymore; we also look after people with psychiatric issues and those struggling with addiction. It's tough because we haven't been taught how to best help these residents, and it really makes our jobs harder.

On top of that, we're seriously short on staff. Sometimes there's just one nurse for more than 50 residents. When we have residents who act out or need extra attention, it pulls us away from taking care of everyone else.

Just a while back, we had only three CNAs for 53 residents in a unit for residents with dementia. That's not enough people to make sure everyone gets the care they need, and it's not safe.

That's why it's so important to have a Nursing Home Workforce Standards Advisory Board. We need to make sure that every place like ours has enough trained staff to take care of all our residents the right way.

Thank you for passing this bill last year. I ask you to do it again so we can keep fighting for safer, better-staffed nursing homes.

Sincerely,  
Megan Lomba