



SEIU Healthcare

United for Quality Care

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Subject: Support for H-5257

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

My name is Tenah Nimmo-Powell. I've been part of the team at Parkview Nursing Home and Bannister Center for 23 years. Most of my time has been as a CNA, but I've also pitched in with Central Supplies/Transport.

Over the years, I've seen a lot change in how we care for the elderly. There was a time when we always had what we needed to do our jobs right. Now, it feels like our employers are always trying to save a buck, even if it means we don't have the supplies we need.

The pandemic really showed how bad it's gotten. We were scrambling for proper PPE, and when we asked for more, we were told there wasn't any. It got to the point where we had to call in the Dept of Health to get the basics.

We're always running low on essential supplies. Every time we ask about it, we get excuses. It's like they're not taking us or our residents' needs seriously.

That's why we desperately need a Workforce Standards Advisory Board for Nursing Homes. We need someone keeping an eye on these places, making sure we have what we need to give our residents the care they deserve.

Thank you for passing this bill last year. I ask you to pass it again—we can't afford to wait any longer.

Sincerely,
Tenah Nimmo-Powell