

I am writing as a registered nurse who has worked in long-term care in Rhode Island for the past 14 years. I care deeply about my patients and the quality of care we are able to provide, which is why I feel strongly about sharing my concerns regarding House Bill 7930.

While I understand the goal of increasing transparency in healthcare, I am worried these bills will place additional administrative burdens on facilities that are already stretched thin. In long-term care, we are facing ongoing staffing shortages, high patient acuity, and increasing demands on our time. Adding more reporting requirements means more time spent on paperwork and less time at the bedside with our residents. Even when frontline staff are not directly responsible for filing reports, we are often required to gather information and support administrative tasks, which further pulls us away from patient care.

Rhode Island is already experiencing a significant shortage of healthcare providers. I am concerned that increasing regulatory complexity and administrative burden could make our state less attractive to nurses, physicians, and other healthcare professionals. This may influence decisions for providers to seek employment in other states with fewer barriers, further worsening our workforce shortage.

These added pressures also directly impact frontline staff by increasing workload and stress without increasing support. Facilities may be forced to shift resources toward compliance instead of staffing, which can lead to fewer staff on the floor, higher patient ratios, and increased burnout. This not only affects staff well-being but can also impact the quality and safety of patient care.

I am also concerned about the impact on smaller facilities. Many long-term care providers operate on very tight margins. Increased compliance costs and complex reporting rules could make it even harder for them to stay open. If facilities close or reduce services, it is our elderly and most vulnerable residents who will suffer the most.

Additionally, I do not see clear evidence that these new requirements will improve patient care or outcomes. Transparency is important, but it should not come at the cost of access to care or the sustainability of the facilities we rely on.

As someone who works directly with residents every day, I urge you to consider the real-world impact these bills could have on both caregivers and patients. I respectfully ask that you oppose House Bill 7930 or consider significant revisions that reduce the burden on frontline healthcare providers.

Thank you for your time and for your service to our community.

Sincerely,



Sarah Brousseau, RN BSN, CIC  
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