



Rachel Baker
State Representative

Darnell Brewer
State Representative

Chairman Cutrona, Vice Chairwoman Gross, Ranking Member Somani, and members of the Health Provider Services Committee, thank you for the opportunity to provide sponsor testimony on House Bill 188, which would designate the second whole week in June as “Ohio Nursing Assistants Week.”

Nursing Assistants Week will be a week to celebrate and appreciate the hard work of Ohio’s nursing assistants, and exhibit the special care and attention that these direct care staff provide. With the growing demand for healthcare professionals in our state, it is extremely important that we recognize the work of these frontline caregivers.

Rep. Baker: Nursing assistants are essential to the operations of healthcare systems, providing both physical and emotional support and care to patients. As a nurse myself, I cannot overstate the importance of their role working alongside us as well as other healthcare professionals to deliver the best care possible.

Rep. Brewer: As a Community Health Worker, I can also speak to the importance of Nursing Assistants. During my time working with the Elderly and the Disabled at the Lourexis/Alexia Manor, I was introduced to a wide array of Nursing Assistants, such as State Tested Nursing Assistants (STNAs), Certified Nursing Assistants (CNAs), and Licensed Nursing Assistants (LNAs), just to name a few. This bill's genesis came from my district's constituents during the Governor’s Nursing Home Quality & Accountability Task Force listening session in April.

With this, it is time to make an effort to recognize our healthcare heroes with Ohio Nursing Assistants Week. I would like to end this with a quote from Lori Porter, CNA, an Alumnus of Medline University, “I’m proud to be a CNA because I positively impact the lives of others every day; I give of myself so that others may live.” I believe it is time we give back.

Chairman Cutrona, Vice Chairwoman Gross, Ranking Member Somani, and members of the Health Provider Services Committee, thank you again for the opportunity to address you today. We are happy to answer any questions from the committee at this time.