

**HB 285 – Nurse Workforce & Safe Patient Care Act**  
**Proponent Testimony by Joel Hoblet, RN**

Chair Swearingen, Vice Chair Gross, Ranking Member Somani, and members of the Health Provider Services Committee.

My name is Joel. I've been a nurse for 26 years. I am a supporter of HB 285.

I've worked several years in institutions without staffing ratios and patient care suffered greatly. On a floor that held 30 patients, the only nurses scheduled for night shift was me and one other nurse. I had 15 patients and she had 14. We ran from room to room with only enough time to do the bare minimum. If there had been an emergency, we would have been screwed. When I think of that scenario, I get chills to this day.

I now work in an institution with a union that negotiated for safe staffing ratios where I feel I can deliver a high quality level of care. The hospital management would love to get rid of the ratios to increase "productivity".

This is why HB 285 is so important; imagine your loved one in the hospital with a nurse, who is the main caregiver, is spread so thin that any changes in your loved one's condition go unnoticed until it's too late.

Joel Hoblet, RN