

Chair Lipps, Vice Chair Holmes, Ranking Member Russo, and members of the House Health Committee, Thank you for allowing me to testify today. My name is LaKesha Wyse DNP, MSN, RN. I am Registered Nurse in the State of Ohio testifying in support of SB 3.

I have been teaching in nursing education for the last 15 years. I can say that I have found my true passion. For the last six years I have been working as an administrator, full-time for an online program. As a mother of three active children, two of which have learning disabilities that required services outside of school. My job has been a life saver for my family. The online environment has also allowed me to connect with students across the United States with license limits. The opportunity to learn practices and student experiences creates a wonderful learning opportunity for myself as well as others. To continue to have a class that comes from different states, I must hold a variety of nursing licenses because Ohio is not a member of the nursing compact.

The pandemic has shown us the need to be able to allow nurses to work in areas of need during an emergency. I had so many of students share how tired they were from working long shifts because there were not enough nurses while at the same time, nurses in rural areas were searching for jobs due to be laid off. All this while in a pandemic.

Registered nurses have already demonstrated their ability to protect the public by successfully passing the NCLEX. Senate bill 3 would be the icing on the cake for nurses to be able to provide care to Ohioans and other states. Healthcare organizations who experience a nursing shortage would be able to easily recruit nurses who hold a compact license. There are currently 34 states in the Nursing Licensure Compact, it's time for Ohio join and allow nurses to practice in other states.

I ask you to consider my testimony and vote YES on this important/life-saving bill. Thank you for this opportunity. I am happy to answer further questions. I can be reached at keshawyse@me.com

*LaKesha Wyse, DNP, MSN, RN
Assistant Dean of Faculty, DNP Program
Chamberlain University*