



Danbury Nurses' Union Unit #47 Local 5047
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Testimony of
Christine Hickey, RN
Danbury Nurses' Union, Unit #47 AFT Local 5047
In support of HB 5384
An Act Concerning Reports of Nurse Staffing Levels
March 5, 2014

Dear Department of Public Health Committee Members,

I have been a Registered Nurse at Danbury Hospital since 1989. I am writing to ask you to support HB 5484. I support transparency in nursing because staffing levels are getting worse each year. Working short staffed is happening more often in the past year than ever before.

When we call the supervisor to report that we are short staffed the routine answer is "I know, do the best you can." To me this is not acceptable. This should not be acceptable to anyone responsible for taking care of patients.

Fifty percent of my patients can't get out of bed by themselves, some can't feed or clean themselves; and they all need to be closely monitored for changes in their condition. How do you do this without staff?

The public needs to know what type of nursing care they are getting. The budget cuts should not impact patient care.

I urge to support transparency in nursing and vote for HB 5384.

Thank you,

Christine Hickey, RN
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