



Danbury Nurses' Union Unit #47 Local 5047  
AFT-CT, AFT Healthcare, AFL- CIO  
18 Great Plain Road, Danbury, CT 06810 (203) 748-4774  
FAX (203) 748-2988 E-mail [aft5047unit47@gmail.com](mailto:aft5047unit47@gmail.com)  
<http://ct.aft.org/unit47>

Testimony of  
Maria Lockwood, 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,

I am writing to support HB 5384. I feel strongly that Connecticut residents should know that their hospitals are adequately staffed. I have been working at Danbury Hospital since 2009.

We are working understaffed. What does this mean? It is setting us up for some serious mistakes. It has become a common occurrence to have just two Registered Nurses in the preoperative area and two Registered Nurses in the phase two recovery area, even when we have four rooms doing procedures! This means that the procedure nurses no sooner finish assessing the first four patients, than they have another four, and another four etc. The staffing does not allow to make sure they have dotted the 'i's and crossed the 't's.

These holds true for the nurse in phase two recovery. This RN may have 6-8 bays filled with post-procedure patients. How can you watch everyone? Heaven help us on days when just one patient's condition deteriorates and requires more medical intervention, such as an emergency admission. This does not make for a good scenario.

There is a lot of data in the literature of American Nurses Association for Endoscopy Nurses' which supports the standards for adequate staffing in an Endoscopy Unit. Hospitals should not oppose showing they meet or exceed these standards to the general public.

I ask you to support HB 5384, and have hospitals report nurse staffing levels.

Thank you,

Maria Lockwood, RN  
50 Saw Mill Rd. Unit 13432  
Danbury, CT 06810