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Testimony of
Maria Lockwood, RN
Danbury Nurses' Union, Unit #47 AFT Local 5047
In support of Raised S. B. 855
An Act Concerning Reports of Nurse Staffing levels
February 23, 2015

I am writing to support Raised S. B. 855. I feel strongly that Connecticut residents should know that their hospitals are adequately staffed. I have been working a 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 Pre Operative 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, then they have another four, 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 S. B. 855, and have hospitals report, Nurse Staffing levels.

Thank you,

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