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United for Quality Care

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Nancy Gonzalez, Assistant Manager
Mosaic
District 1199NE
Before the Labor Committee

In Support of SB 1002: AN ACT CONCERNING LABOR ISSUES RELATED TO COVID-19, PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT AND OTHER STAFFING MATTERS and In Support of HB 6595: AN ACT CONCERNING LABOR MATTERS RELATED TO COVID-19, PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT AND OTHER STAFFING ISSUES

Good Morning Senator Kushner, Representative Porter and members of the Committee. My name is Nancy Gonzalez and I am an Assistant Manager at a Mosaic group home and I have been working for the company for 22 years. I am here today to share some of my experiences and to ask you to support Senate Bill 1002 and House Bill 6595 so that frontline essential workers like me will have some support.

I love my clients because I love to help them enjoy their lives. I want to make sure our clients have an easy life. My job is usually spent helping my individuals with a shower or the restroom if needed. I look to see who needs medication and I cook and clean, among many other things to make the house run well. I also advocate for the residents as well as advocate for the staff. I make sure the clients and the staff have everything they need to be safe.

When Covid hit, my group home lost a client to the virus. It was an incredibly stressful time because so many of our workers were calling out or quitting for many reasons. Some of them were sick themselves, some of them were scared, but regardless we were incredibly short staffed and many staff members had to work doubles and triples to make sure there was care.

If you pass Senate Bill 1002 and House Bill 6595 then workers like me and my staff will have hazard pay and sick leave. We will be given the respect we deserve for the job we have done in the last year. Thank you for your time.