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United for Quality Care

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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 Kellye Woods. I am testifying today in support of Senate Bill 1002 and House Bill 6595 because of the section on Hero Pay.

We need the Heroes pay because of the risk that we take when we go to work. You can try to secure and make your workplace as safe as possible from COVID 19, but all it takes is for one person not following the safety measures to put our individuals and staff at risk! Sometimes, it is something you cannot control, and next thing you know it is spreading like wildfire within your workplace.

I caught Covid 19 in January 2021, along with individuals and staff at my workplace. We all have gone through the experience of our health and bodies having Covid19 which affected are lives and our job performances because of the way this Virus attacks every vital organ in your body. This virus leaves you hopeless and helpless !!! You will never be the same mentally and physically!!! I pled for my life with this Virus, and barely made it out alive.

We have lost loved ones, our individuals and co-workers to this Covid 19 pandemic!! I'm still going through the healing from this Virus, I will never get over the fact of that upper management and this administration did not and has continued to not take this pandemic seriously!!! We are frontline workers. Please pass Senate Bill 1002 and House Bill 6596, so that workers like me – and our families - can be compensated for the risk that we have and continue to take. Thank you for your time.