



SEIUHealthcare
United for Quality Care

March 17, 2021
Imogene McClymont, CNA
Touchpoints at Farmington
SEIU District 1199 New England
Before the Public Health Committee

In Support of **SB 1030: AN ACT CONCERNING LONG-TERM CARE FACILITIES** *with changes.*

Good Morning Senator Abrams, Representative Steinberg, and members of the Public Health Committee, my name is Imogene McClymont, I live in Hartford and have been working at Touch Point at Farmington for the past 14 years. I am a Certified Nursing Assistant and I am also a Cosmetologist. I have received my Associate Degree in Health Information Management at Capital Community College and I'm currently enrolled in the Charter Oak State College for my Bachelor's in Health Information Management. I'm here to testify in support of Senate Bill 1030 because it would be a significant step to helping workers like me.

The population we take care of are now more combative, sometimes dangerous, and require special care. As a result, it is difficult to hire and retain staffing at the current rate of pay while working in these conditions. These days fewer people are willing to enter the field of long-term health care when comparing the risk of catching a deadly disease on the job combined with the risk of taking it home to their families. Because of this, Nursing Homes are facing a drastic staffing crisis. We have less and less people working, and less people applying to work at Nursing Homes.

During the pandemic we worked tirelessly, we were physically and emotionally stressed out not knowing what the outcome was going to be. We lost lots of residents to this dreadful virus and some of our co-workers became ill from the dreadful virus. It was very sad because most of them were closely attached to us.

Passing this bill would be a start to treating workers how they should be treated. We need better staffing so that the residents would have more interaction with us and so they can receive better care. Our residents deserve way better than what they are getting now. I urge you to pass this bill because it would significantly address and improve the funding and chronic staffing issues facing nursing homes around the state. Please pass Senate Bill 1030. Thank you for your time.