



SEIUHealthcare
United for Quality Care

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Before the Public Health Committee

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

Good afternoon Senator Abrams, Representative Steinberg, and members of the Public Health Committee, my name is Juanita Singleton. I am a CNA at Regalcare of West Haven. I have worked at Regalcare for 34 years, but I have been a healthcare worker for 40 years. I'm here to urge you to pass Senate Bill 1030 with several small changes because our residents deserve it.

I love my residents and giving them care. I love to make them feel good, and they love to know that someone cares for them. I wish I had more time to give them the care that they deserve like being able to sit and talk to them more, and to be able to take more outings with them.

Unfortunately, to do our jobs to the best of our ability, we need proper staffing, and we don't have it. The work we do as caregivers makes a meaningful difference in our residents' lives. They need the care that we provide, they depend on it to function. We are constantly understaffed and over-worked. We do what we can to provide the best care we can to our residents but lack of resources causes us to work so hard that many days I barely have time for a break. This bill would mandate 4.1 hours of direct care for residents, which would be a huge change. It would mean that more staff would have to be hired, and our staffing levels will increase. Unfortunately, this bill also creates twelve hour shifts for workers, which would absolutely NOT help with burnout. While I love the staffing level changes, I think the twelve hour shift language should be taken out.

This bill also addresses PPE because it requires Nursing Homes to create a stockpile of three months worth of PPE. This is a great start, but it really should be six months. At the beginning of the pandemic, it took us more than three months to start to stabilize the supply chain so we could get adequate PPE. This language should change to six months.

Overall, this bill would drastically change nursing homes and allow workers like me some peace of mind. It would also improve quality of care for residents because it would change staffing ratios. I urge you to pass this bill with the several changes I mentioned. Thank you for your time.

