

Dear Representatives,

Please vote against Bill HB 2524. Nursing agencies are absolutely necessary to help with the staffing shortages that are plaguing the nation right now. Even with agency help, facilities are still facing extreme staffing shortages. Without the extra staff that agencies provide, it would be completely devastating to facilities who are struggling to find staff to care for their patients and residents. I work in HR at Trinity Nursing Staff, and I see what some of the facilities are paying their aides and nurses. Nurse aides work extremely hard, and some facilities are only paying them \$11 per hour. No one can support a family or live on this low of a wage with inflation and rising costs because of the supply shortages the nation is experiencing. Healthcare workers nationwide are getting burnt out and getting tired of risking their health for low wages and increasing mandate requirements. Once called heroes for their work at the beginning of the pandemic, healthcare workers are now facing more and more obstacles every day to continue providing the care these patients desperately need. This bill will make it impossible to continue to operate these nursing agencies that are so vital right now. If passed, this bill could potentially put many people out of a job. We need to stand up and support our agencies and our nursing staff! Their work matters! It is vital to save lives and care for the sick and elderly, who are unable to care for themselves! Please think of the staffing shortages, the pandemic, the mandates and all of the other things healthcare workers are currently dealing with right now! Adding this bill would devastate so many people. Say no to Bill HB 2524! Do it for the hospitals. Do it for the nursing homes. Do it for the nurses and aides who are doing their best to work through the struggles of this pandemic. But most of all, do it for the patients and residents who need the care of these nurses and aides to survive. Say no because it is the right thing to do!

Sincerely,

Sherry Reagan
Trinity Nursing Staff