



The cost of Short Staffing is **TOO HIGH**—

for patients, nurses and our health care system.

We need a Safe Staffing law – NOW.

You spend your working days trying your hardest to get health care right. Everyday you provide the best care you can to your patients. Yet, because of short staffing, too often you go home at the end of your shift exhausted from caring for too many patients and worried about their safety.

Short staffing compromises the quality of patient care and leads to preventable medical errors, higher infection rates, complications and even patient deaths.

Nurses and caregivers pay the price with higher rates of workplace injury and stress. Hospitals and the health care system bear increased costs from understaffing, including increased length of stay, increased workers' compensation costs, higher staff turnover and vacancy rates, increased recruitment costs, and increased medical malpractice liability. Ultimately, all these costs are passed on to consumers and taxpayers through higher premiums and increased costs for Medicare and Medicaid.

That can change with Safe Staffing legislation.

HPAE is leading the fight for a new Safe Staffing law in New Jersey. Safe Staffing legislation simply means having the right number of qualified nurses and staff at the bedside. Safe Staffing is critical for providing the best patient care and to improving the quality of your life as a nurse.

Yet hospitals are stubbornly resisting our efforts for safe staff ratio policies despite all the evidence of improved patient outcomes, increased nurse retention and cost savings.

HPAE has already helped make the Safe Patient Handling Act and the Violence Prevention in Healthcare Facilities Act become law. Now we need you to join with us in making sure that Safe Staffing joins the list to protect patients, nurses and our wallets.



Be part of the solution. Join our campaign for Safe Staffing.

Let your New Jersey State legislators and Commissioner of Health know we need Safe Staffing levels at all of our hospitals.

Go to www.hpae.org/political/staffing and send a letter to your legislators and Commissioner of Health supporting our staff ratios law. Ask them to support S963 (Vitale) and A660 (Greenstein/Moriarity).

Contact us at hpae.org/political/staffing to learn more and join the campaign for Safe Staffing.