

## Fran Lusk

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**From:** Stephanie <stephanie\_mccurdy@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, January 31, 2022 8:25 AM  
**To:** Fran Lusk  
**Cc:** Jonathan Walden  
**Subject:** HB 2524

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Hello,

I am writing today in opposition of house bill 2524. I would like to be added to the agenda to speak in opposition of house bill 2524. During the past 2 years I have seen a huge shift in the nursing industry. Due to staff shortages, which create unsafe staff/patient ratios, Covid-19 protocols, long hours, and low wages, I have seen many CNA's and nurses walk away from this business. I, also, wanted to leave the nursing field. Then I found Walden Medical Staffing. An agency with amazing leadership and caring, professional staff. I joined Walden because I saw the incredible opportunities that came with Agency nursing. I have been able to go to new places, use different skills, learn new things, and grow as a nurse. I am excited to go to work again. I have found my passion for nursing again. Each facility that I go to, I strive to be the best that I can be and take care of the residents the way I would want my loved ones cared for. The flexibility is necessary, I need to be able to work shifts that allow me to maintain quality time with my family. Agency has also helped to provide financial security for my family. I am finally getting paid for the work I have been doing for the past 15 years. I believe the average wage for agency staff is fair. We go into facilities without orientation, not knowing the working conditions, not knowing the residents, not knowing the computer system, sometimes on very short notice, and we are expected to do our job while maintaining professionalism. We are not getting benefits, we do not get insurance, retirement or earn PTO from the facilities we visit. Many times I work the entire shift with 90% agency staff. With facilities being very short staffed it breaks my heart to think about what would happen if this bill is passed and more people quit nursing. Who would take care of the residents? Facilities across Kansas would be forced to close. These facilities need Agency staff. Please reconsider this bill and do not put a cap on agency wages.

Sincerely,

Stephanie McCurdy RN

Sent from my iPhone