

Resolution in support of the Safe Patient Care Act

Whereas, registered nurses are the heart of the healthcare system and need adequate time to monitor patients and keep them safe in the hospital; and

Whereas, hospitals have been purposely understaffing RNs for years, resulting in poor outcomes for patients and driving nurses from the bedside; and

Whereas, 42 percent of Michigan RNs report knowing of a patient dying due to RN understaffing; and

Whereas, there is hope for reversing the patient safety and nurse retention crisis that is hurting our communities, if state legislators act; and

Whereas, The Safe Patient Care Act is a three-part package of bills pending in the state Legislature (House bills 4550-4552 and Senate bills 334-336); and

Whereas, The Safe Patient Care Act would set safe limits on the number of patients a nurse can be assigned, end dangerous forced RN overtime, and require hospitals to disclose their actual RN-to-patient ratios; and

Whereas, The Safe Patient Care Act puts patient safety and nurses' working conditions first and foremost, over the corporate drive for profit; and

Whereas, HB 4935 Known as the interstate licensure compact will negatively impact Michigan's nursing professionals.

Now Therefore Be It Resolved, that the Ingham County Democratic Party stands in support of the three bills collectively known as the Safe Patient Care Act ((House bills 4550-4552 and Senate bills 334-336) and local legislators who have cosponsored the bills while urging legislative leadership to act on this lifesaving legislation post-haste; and

Be It Further Resolved, that the Ingham County Democratic Party opposes HB 4935.