

(Date)

Honorable (Name of legislator)

(Committee position or office)

(Branch of government)

(State/national address)

Dear (Senator, Representative and name)

On behalf of the (Texas) Emergency Nurses Association (or emergency nurses in Texas), I would like to express my/our concerns/support for/with (Bill you are referencing). (Describe what your concerns are or why you support the legislation).

The Emergency Nurses Association reports workplace violence against healthcare workers, including emergency nurses, has become a national crisis. According to the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA), workers in the health care sector accounted for only 20% of workplace injuries yet comprised approximately 50% of all victims of workplace assault. This problem is especially evident in emergency departments (EDs), which are open 24 hours a day, seven days a week and are required under federal law to stabilize and treat all patients. Research has found that emergency nurses and other personnel in the ED experience a violent event about once every two months. Further, a 2011 study reported that one-third of emergency nurses reported they had considered leaving the profession due to workplace violence.

(Provide specifics regarding the legislation, i.e. how it will adversely affect emergency nurses, how it will affect patients, how it will support emergency nurses or help in emergency nursing care).

(Provide any references that support your position)

(Explain what you are committed to do regarding the legislation and willingness to work with the legislator on support or compromise to meet your objectives).

Sincerely,

(Your name and credentials, home address, phone number and email address)