



HOUSE EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENTS AND ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE

April 2, 2019

SB 273 – Establishing a Committee to Study the Regulation of Nursing Assistants by the Board of Nursing and Criminal History Record Checks for Nurses

Testimony

Good afternoon, Mr. Chairman and members of the committee. My name is Paula Minnehan, Senior VP, State Government Relations with the New Hampshire Hospital Association (NHHA), representing all 26 of the state's community hospitals as well as all specialty hospitals.

The NHHA supports SB 273, as amended by the Senate. We had concerns with the bill, as introduced. However, the sponsor met with us and other stake-holders numerous times to discuss our concerns with the bill, which we very much appreciate. We also appreciate the Board of Nursing Executive Director participating in these discussions. Based on these discussions and testimony received in the Senate committee, it was determined that amending the bill to change it to a study committee made the most sense at this time.

We ask that the committee support this bill to allow for further study of the regulation of nursing assistants by the board of nursing so that all the affected stakeholders; hospitals, nursing homes, home care agencies, and Licensed Nursing Assistants can weigh in on the regulations of nursing assistants and determine, as a group, what is in the best interest of the health care community and the state.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide our comments. We support SB 273, as amended, and hope you will vote the bill "ought to pass". I am happy to answer any questions.