



October 19,2022

VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL (IFC@lcb.state.nv.us)

Nevada Legislature - Interim Finance Committee
C/O Fiscal Analysis Division
401 South Carson Street
Carson City, NV 89701

RE: October 20th IFC Meeting – Support for Agenda Item #91 – Assisted Living Facility and Nursing Facility Workforce Initiative

Interim Finance Committee Members,

Hello,

My name is Steven Rieder, and my partners and I recently purchased Mission Pines and Mountainview Care Center in North Las Vegas and Boulder City respectively. At the time of takeover, we were faced with hundreds of thousands of dollars of agency expenses because the previous company could not retain staff. After declaring bankruptcy, we took over and immediately needed to raise wages among many other items to help fix the facility. This is something that COVID really knocked this industry particularly hard. We are asking your help to keep us and the residents we care for, standing for many years to come. Thank you.

We really appreciate all the assistance the Governor's office has given us as well as the involvement the Department of Health and Human Services has done to make this request a reality as well as understanding the true workforce struggle this industry faces on a daily basis.

[PICK SEVERAL (NOT ALL) OF THE POINTS BELOW TO ADD INTO A LETTER]

- Nursing homes increased wages in 2020 and 2021 at the highest rates of all health care facilities. But because nursing homes are chronically underfunded, soaring labor costs are unsustainable.
- The majority of residents rely on Medicaid, but the program only covers 70-80% of the actual cost required to provide daily care.
- Even before COVID, the average nursing home barely broke even.
- As a result, nursing homes struggle to compete for workers against other health care employers as well as private industries.
- Now the industry faces an economic crisis brought on by the pandemic and inflation.
- According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, nursing homes and residential-care facilities employed three million people in July, down 380,000 workers from February 2020. Nursing home employment has fallen every month except one since the World Health Organization declared Covid-19 a global pandemic in March 2020. While employment in nearly every occupation has been recovering from the shock of the pandemic, the number of people working in nursing homes and other LTC facilities has continued to drop, according to federal data.
- Traditionally, 70% of a facility's operating expenses go to labor.



- With fixed government rates, it is difficult for facilities on shoestring budgets to make additional investments in their staff.

Please support Nevada's long term care workforce by approving work program #91 that will fund a nursing facility and assisted living facility workforce initiative.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Steven Rieder".

Steven Rieder, COO
Oxford Valley Health