

Staff Letter #1

TODAY'S DATE

The Honorable (senator or representative's name)

RECIPIENT'S ADDRESS

RECIPIENT'S ADDRESS

RECIPIENT'S ADDRESS

Dear (Senator/Representative):

I am proud to work as a (nurse/CNA/other) at the (name of facility). Every day, I help my elders and their families. But the satisfaction I get from helping others won't pay my bills. I know good nurses often quit to find higher pay somewhere else. That makes it harder for the rest of us.

I hope you will support SB 1130/HB 2766. Better funding will help ease the turnover crisis, and that will help improve care.

Staff in Texas nursing homes need more support from the state, not punishment. We need your help. How well we are able to do our job is determined by what you do in Austin. Please help by supporting this legislation.

Sincerely,

NAME HERE,

JOB TITLE HERE (nurse, CNA, etc. ...)

Staff Letter #2

TODAY'S DATE

The Honorable (senator or representative's name)
RECIPIENT'S ADDRESS
RECIPIENT'S ADDRESS
RECIPIENT'S ADDRESS

Dear (Senator/Representative):

RE: Nursing home funding

I am writing to urge your support of SB 1130/HB 2766 to provide better funding to Texas nursing homes.

Funding — not regulation — is what Texas nursing homes like the one I (oversee/work at) need. Texas hasn't funded the actual cost of care for Medicaid residents in decades. That keeps wages low. Caregivers can make more money at a fast food restaurant or discount retail store like Walmart. Combine that with the demands of the high-stress job and it truly takes an extraordinary person to remain on the job.

We need to help the caregivers who choose to spend their days helping others, not offer them even more regulations as an incentive to do more and better.

The Nursing Facility Reinvestment Allowance will be a real game-changer for Texas nursing homes without relying on state tax dollars. I hope we can count on your support.

Sincerely,

NAME HERE,
JOB TITLE HERE (Administrator?)

Staff Letter #3

The Honorable (senator or representative's name)
RECIPIENT'S ADDRESS
RECIPIENT'S ADDRESS
RECIPIENT'S ADDRESS

Date

Dear (Senator/Representative):

I work in a Texas nursing home and I am requesting that you please support SB 1130/HB 2766.

I want you to know that we have plenty of rules already. Adding more won't help us do our jobs better. What we need is better support from the state. I love my job, but sometimes it is hard for me to take care of my own family after spending all day taking care of someone else's, while trying to live on some of the lowest wages in health care.

If you want to improve the quality of nursing home care in Texas, increase funding for nursing homes so they can hire enough staff and keep the ones they've got.

If you want to improve the quality of nursing home care in Texas, please support the Nursing Facility Reinvestment Allowance.

Sincerely,

NAME HERE,
JOB TITLE HERE (CNA)

Staff Letter #4

TODAY'S DATE

The Honorable (senator or representative's name)

RECIPIENT'S ADDRESS

RECIPIENT'S ADDRESS

RECIPIENT'S ADDRESS

Dear (Senator/Representative):

No one wants to improve the quality of care in Texas nursing homes more than the people who work in them. I know because I am one. I chose this career because I know I make a difference in someone's life every day. I am proud of my job and am proud to work with the people I do.

But we need your help to do our jobs better. Texas has one of the lowest nursing home reimbursement rates in the nation. That's shameful. We work hard and deserve better.

On behalf of myself and my co-workers, I ask that you please support SB 1130/HB 2766, the Nursing Facility Reinvestment Allowance, to better fund nursing homes in Texas without raising taxes. Thank you for your service to (hometown) and thank you for taking the time to listen.

Sincerely,

NAME HERE,

JOB TITLE HERE (family member)

Staff Letter #5

TODAY'S DATE

**The Honorable (senator or representative's name)
RECIPIENT'S ADDRESS
RECIPIENT'S ADDRESS
RECIPIENT'S ADDRESS**

Dear (Senator/Representative):

Thank you for the work you do on behalf of our state. I understand budgets and can only imagine the difficulties you are tasked with this session.

I am a nursing home administrator in your district and I am writing to ask you to support SB 1130/HB 2766, the Nursing Facility Reinvestment Allowance. The NFRA is a provider-based solution to the perpetual underfunding of Texas nursing homes.

The NFRA will allow me to make much needed investment in staffing, training and facility improvements. And it does this all without raising taxes or tapping the state's general revenue fund.

More regulations are not the answer to improve the quality of care.

Texas nursing homes are already one of the most regulated industries in the state. Almost three dozen government regulatory agencies already oversee nursing home care and can walk in the front door of a facility at any moment. State funding for nursing home care is about \$6 an hour.

Increased funding, not more regulation, is the solution. Passing the NFRA will help Texas nursing homes provide the care their residents deserve. I hope you will support us.

Sincerely,

**NAME HERE,
JOB TITLE HERE**

Staff Letter #6

TODAY'S DATE

The Honorable (senator or representative's name)

RECIPIENT'S ADDRESS

RECIPIENT'S ADDRESS

RECIPIENT'S ADDRESS

RE: Nursing home funding

Dear (Senator/ Representative):

Thank you for all you do for (hometown.) I am writing to ask your support of an historic opportunity for Texas nursing homes, the Nursing Facility Reinvestment Allowance, SB 1130/HB 2766.

The NFRA will increase funding for Texas nursing homes to more closely meet the actual cost of care. This will raise wages and improve staffing levels, where I work.

I am a (job title) and I work at (facility name). I love being able to help people and work with a great team. But my ability to help is affected by high staff turnover. The low pay and high stress is just too much for many and I am constantly working with new staff to bring them up to speed and how to do things the right way.

I understand that Texas has one of the lowest nursing home reimbursement rates in the nation, and that's what keeps my wages so low and our turnover so high. The NFRA will boost our reimbursement rate without raising taxes. This seems like a reasonable solution to me.

Please think of all of us, working day and night, here at (facility name) when you are making your decisions on the next budget. Please support this legislation.

Sincerely,

NAME HERE,

JOB TITLE HERE (Nurse, CNA, etc...)