

Legislative Letter Sample #1

Tips:

- Visit www.leg.wa.gov if you need help looking up your district or the addresses of your legislators.
- Include your name, address and a contact email or phone number at the end of your letter.
- Be sure to include bill numbers.
- Add a personal story or perspective. Even just a sentence or two will help your letter stand out.
- Be sure to identify yourself as a nurse – you have the most trusted voice, use it!

Dear Senator/Representative _____,

I am a registered nurse in your district and I am urging your support for safe staffing (House Bill 2519 and Senate Bill 6307), uninterrupted rest and meal breaks (Senate Bill 6309), and limits to mandatory call for nurses in our hospitals (House Bill 2501). These bills comprise the Patient Safety Legislative Package and are critical steps in ensuring safe patient care in our hospitals.

Safe staffing means that every patient gets the nursing care they need, when they need it. Registered nurses already catch 85% of errors before they cause patient harm. Better staffing means safer care and lower costs because we can avoid these preventable complications.

[Add personal story about staffing shortages, missed breaks or mandatory overtime]

The Patient Safety Legislative Package will have a direct impact on the patients and nurses in your district. I urge your support.

Legislative Letter Sample #2

Dear Senator/Representative _____,

As a registered nurse in your district, I need your help to ensure that I can provide safe patient care to our community.

I am urging your support for safe staffing (House Bill 2519 and Senate Bill 6307), uninterrupted rest and meal breaks (Senate Bill 6309), and limits to mandatory call for nurses in our hospitals (House Bill 2501). These bills comprise the Patient Safety Legislative Package and are critical steps in ensuring safe patient care in our hospitals.

We need your help to ensure that nurses can get an uninterrupted break and not be forced to work mandatory so that we can remain alert during a shift. We need your help to ensure that we have a voice in staffing decisions at our hospitals. We need your help to ensure that all patients receive safe care no matter where they live and which hospital they go to.

[Add personal story about staffing shortages, missed breaks or mandatory overtime]

Thank you for considering this important legislation.