

In Support of SB303  
March 27, 2021  
Ashley Ryan  
Senate District #32

Mr. Chairman and members of the committee. I'm writing today to support SB303.  
Good morning.

I want to thank Tatum for this opportunity to speak out on behalf of those residing in nursing homes as well as the staff whom are working around the clock to ensure their safety and needs are met during such an eye opening pandemic.

As a former DON of a LTC facility I personally have seen firsthand how such a pandemic can truly affect each and every age category of those residing and employed in the LTC industry. I was a first time DON and battled along with the rest of the nation the newness of COVID-19 from the beginning over a year ago. I have seen residents and family on the outside struggle with depression, isolation, helplessness and the utmost of them all death.

We as nurses and healthcare employees want to make sure we have our resident's safety and health interests first at best. Having to break the news to loved ones on the outside that they are considered a threat to their loved ones on the inside is the hardest thing I have ever had to explain at the same time ensuring we are taking every precaution to keep them safe and alive.

Some of the residents I personally was in charge of and took care of we lost not due to COVID specifically but because of the precautions in place to keep it out---ISOLATION. I truly hope that this is something that will allow normalcy back in place whatever that may be now. I truly hope for the residents and their families as well as healthcare workers that we keep moving forward with vaccination and detrimental information to assist with fighting COVID off.

Thank you,

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