Date

The Honorable \_\_\_\_\_\_\_

U.S. Senate

City, State, Zip

Dear Senator \_\_\_\_:

On behalf of the \_\_\_\_ registered nurses and health professionals of the \_\_\_\_\_, I am writing to request a meeting in your district office to ask for your support of S. 851, the Workplace Violence Prevention for Health Care and Social Service Workers Act.

Our members can testify that assaults and threats of violence are all too common and getting worse. We have had members who were \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and suffered career-ending injuries, including broken bones, brain injuries and post-traumatic stress disorder. Even those who avoid serious injury report lasting anxiety that impacts their ability to care for their patients or clients.

The Workplace Violence Prevention for Health Care and Social Service Workers Act will require the creation of safety plans to prevent workplace assaults in healthcare and social services settings. Healthcare and social service workers—people who care for our elderly, sick and vulnerable populations—need safety plans supported by evidence-based solutions. According to a 2018 survey from the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, these workers experience 71 percent of reported workplace violence injuries, and they are nearly five times more likely than other workers to be assaulted on the job. This problem has gotten worse over the past decade. The rate of violent injuries grew by 143 percent in hospitals, 149 percent in psychiatric and substance use facilities, and 151 percent in social service settings between 2008 and 2018.

By becoming a cosponsor of the bill, you can help address this crisis. We look forward to arranging a meeting to discuss the Workplace Violence Prevention for Health Care and Social Service Workers Act.Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

\_\_\_\_, President

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