

March 28, 2025

The Honorable Kellie Deeter

U.S. House Representative for Ohio

The Honorable Nathan H. Manning

U.S. Senator for Ohio

The Honorable Robert E. Latta

U.S. Senator for Ohio

Dear Members of Congress,

My name is Destiny Houghtlen and I am a nursing student at Firelands Regional Medical Center School of Nursing in Sandusky, Ohio. I graduate nursing school on May 2nd 2025 and I will start working at Firelands Regional Medical Center. I am writing to express my concern regarding healthcare workforce shortages and to urge you to take action to address this pressing matter. As your constituent, I have witnessed firsthand how this issue affects individuals and families in our community.

As I explained I will be working at Firelands Regional Medical Center in Sandusky Ohio. I have worked there as an aid for two years so I see what the healthcare workforce shortage does to the hospital. The patients need to be taken care of and it makes it difficult when there is not enough staff. The issue with the healthcare workforce shortage also affects the safety of the patients and the nurses. It is difficult managing patients when there are not enough nurses on the floor to do it.

The current situation could be in need of some support. Any funding would possibly encourage people to want to be nurses. College can be expensive and some people are not able to afford it so if there is anything that could be done to help encourage people to get a degree in college of some kind. The nurses that are already working could also use some help. Things like paid vacation and better insurance for those working in healthcare could be beneficial. There are nurses that get burnt out because they do not take time away from work like they should. Healthcare professionals also need to have good insurance in order to ensure they are taking care of themselves. I strongly encourage you to support the healthcare professionals, which would help encourage more people to join the healthcare system, improve the patients' stays in the hospital, and also help ensure the healthcare team members are taking care of themselves.

Taking action on this issue would not only improve health outcomes but also enhance the overall well-being of the people in our community. I urge you to prioritize this matter and advocate for the healthcare system and our community which will ensure equitable access to quality healthcare for all.

Thank you for your time and dedication to serving our community. I appreciate the opportunity to discuss this issue with you and would be grateful for any updates on your efforts regarding this matter. Please feel free to contact me at your convenience.

Sincerely,

Destiny Houghtlen