Testimony on Contract Nursing Agency Standards Senate Workforce Development Committee January 9, 2025 Senate Bill 2031

Chairman Wobbema and members of the committee thank you for allowing me to testify today. My name is Sheriff Sharma, I am the Director of Business Development at DTN Staffing. DTN Staffing is a healthcare staffing agency founded in 2007, DTN provides supplemental healthcare staff to facilities across the Midwest.

At DTN we pride ourselves on providing the most qualified staff to fit each facility's individual needs. We have work closely with NDLTCA and its members to align the expectations and standards set forth in the bill. We would like to highlight the clause Page 4 – Item 26-7 A felony conviction by the nursing services agency's owner or one of its employees or independent contractors. This doesn't concern us regarding field staff but primarily internal employees as we could run into a potential conflict with Equal employment opportunity laws. These internal staff would have no exposure to vulnerable populations and restrictions could expose the agency to legal action as the bill would require them to deny internal candidates for reasons that wouldn't affect their work duties. As we testify in support of Senate Bill 2031, we would like to request an amendment that would help to address this concern.

Again, thank you Chairman Wobbema and members of the committee for allowing me to share a little about DTN Staffing today. If you have any questions I will happily answer those at this time.