

From: Deb Snell <debs@vfnhp.org>
Sent: Wednesday, April 17, 2019 12:11 PM
To: Ann Cummings <ACUMMINGS@leg.state.vt.us>
Cc: Faith Brown <FBrown@leg.state.vt.us>
Subject: Licensure fees

Hello-

I briefly attended your committee meeting yesterday and was able to hear Mr Winters discussing licensure fees for nursing as well as the phone testimony given. I wanted to express my concerns about raising fees on nursing licenses. My biggest concern is that of the Nursing Licensure Compact and the financial consequences it will have. According to the report released, to off set the approximately \$1,000,000.00 loss in revenue from fees, the state would need to raise the cost of a nursing license in this state to \$280.00. That is double the current fee. This cost would be passed on to the nurses that already live and work and are committed to Vermont. Even the currently proposed increase to \$200.00 for registered nurses would make us the most expensive state to hold a nursing license. I am also concerned by the proposed increase cost to Licensed Practical Nurses and Licensed Nursing Assistants. We, as I am sure you are well aware, are in a crisis in this state in regards to health care workers across the spectrum. Our hospitals are operating chronically short staffed. We need APRNs, RNs, LPNs and LNAs. AFT-VT questions if this is the time to be raising costs on professions that we need to attract to our state.

Thank you for your consideration

Deb

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They tried to bury us.
They didn't know we were seeds.
- Mexican Proverb