



**JNESO**

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*the professional health care union*

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### **STATEMENT: PA Patient Safety Act Passes in House**

Stroudsburg, PA (6/28/23) – Nurses and other healthcare workers have been pushing hard over the past few months to increase awareness and support for the Patient Safety Act to improve patient care and the work environment for nurses across Pennsylvania.

Passage of [House Bill 106](#) today is a major step forward and JNESO District Council 1, IUEO-AFL-CIO, joins the many other labor unions, nurses and patient advocacy groups in celebrating this win.

“We are so thankful to bill sponsors Representatives Thomas Mehaffie, Kathleen Tomlinson, and Bridget Kosierowski for driving this effort forward to protect both nurses and patients,” said Bob Williams, President of the JNESO local at Lehigh Valley-Pocono Hospital. “We need to continue this positive momentum, as the bill moves into the Senate, to ensure that safe nurse-to-patient staffing ratios are adopted to help keep our patients safe and keep nurses at the bedside.”

He added, “We have already lost too many experienced nurses due to short staffing and burnout. Safe staffing ratios work, they protect the health of patients by taking into account acuity levels, reduce mortality rate, and make sure that there are enough nurses on the floor to do what they are trained to do – care for patients!”

The Patient Safety Act would amend the act of July 19, 1979 (P.L.130, No.48), known as the Health Care Facilities Act, providing for hospital patient protection provisions; and imposing penalties.

JNESO District Council 1, IUEO-AFL-CIO, the professional healthcare union, represents some 5,000 nurses and technicians at facilities across New Jersey and Pennsylvania.

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