

FIX H.4767/S.1718

We can protect health care workers & people in crisis.
We don't need to choose.



Section 3 of S.1718 and Section 5 of H.4767 must be stricken to prevent severe, long-term harm.

Health care workers deserve a safe work environment. However, both versions of this bill include measures (Section 3 in S.1718 and Section 5 in H.4767) that would unnecessarily put people in crisis at risk of serious negative consequences by increasing the severity of assault charges against health care workers from misdemeanors to felonies.

On the surface, that may appear to make sense. However, it fails to consider whether or not a person in crisis may be in the midst of a trauma response or acting out of what they perceive to be self-defense against forced treatment.

WHY THIS MATTERS

- **Felony charges negatively impact future housing, employment and other opportunities.**
- **Strong penalties for assault on healthcare workers already exist.**
- **There is no evidence that harsher penalties reduce risk of violence.**
- **Inequities would likely be worsened including racial disparities already present in legal and health care systems.**



TELL LEGISLATORS TO STRIKE SECTIONS 3 & 5

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