



March 5, 2022

Attn: Chairman Rep. Brenda Landwehr and Members

From: Douglas Stark, President of ComfortCare Homes, LLC.

As stated above I am the President of ComfortCare Homes, Inc. in Wichita and we are the family that founded the residential concept of providing care in neighborhood homes in Kansas. After approaching the State in 1992 about the idea and being granted permission to move forward, we opened our first of what are now 11 homes on December 4, 1993. In 1998 our idea became the HomePlus classification promulgated by the legislature in 1998.

I employ over 100 CNA's, Nurses, and support staff. The critical need at this point is securing a sufficient number of CNA's to effectively operate the business and provide the quality care promised to our families for the over 100 Residents that we care for.

I am also a member of the Board of Trustees for WSU Tech and have been involved over the last few years in numerous discussions regarding the shortage of CNA's for the healthcare system. The discussion inevitably stalls at the restrictions of only allowing RN's to provide the training, and a lack of clinical opportunities.

Consequently, with all of my heart, I support SB 453 to help in relieving the constant pressure of not having an adequate workforce to provide the care necessary for our ever-growing senior population.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Doug". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Douglas C. Stark
President / Owner