

PROTECT HOSPITAL EMPLOYEES FROM VIOLENCE

Violence against hospital employees is becoming more frequent & severe.



Support enhanced penalties for violence against our HEALTH CARE HEROES.

SB 568 by Rodriguez / HB 825 by Berfield

HOSPITAL STORIES



People working in hospitals are **6X** more likely to suffer workplace violence than private sector workers

20,050 workers in the private sector experienced trauma from non-fatal workplace violence in 2020. Of those victims 76% worked in health care.

Recent studies indicate that 44% of nurses reported experiencing physical violence and 68% reported experiencing verbal abuse.

Pregnant Nurse Assaulted

2021—A pregnant nurse at a Florida Hospital was assaulted by a patient in the behavioral health unit resulting in the loss of her child.

Kidnapping at FL Hospital

2021—Florida hospital employee was kidnapped and attacked while entering the hospital for work

FL Surgeon Slain

2011—Florida surgeon targeted and killed by a patient on hospital grounds.

Implement Enhanced Penalties For Assault Or Violence Against Hospital Staff

Enhanced penalties already exist for emergency department employees, Florida should expand this to all hospital employees. It is critical that Florida law reflects the heightened risk that all hospital employees face in their line of duty.

Enhanced penalties for assault or battery towards these individuals will:

Secure peace of mind for hospital employees and reduce staff burnout

Reduce instances of violence against hospital employees

Deter future offenders

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FAST FACTS



Proactive and reactive violence response efforts cost U.S. hospitals approximately \$2.7 billion in 2016.

Over 55% of U.S. Hospitals conduct their own workplace-violence prevention programs



7 States and Congress considered legislation to address violence against health care workers in 2022



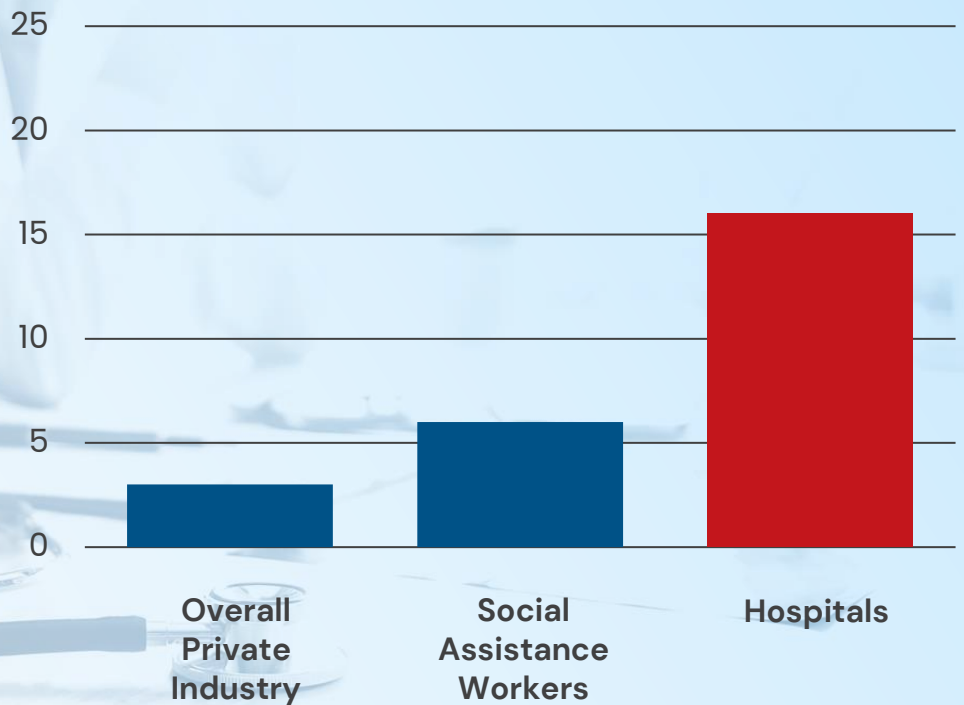
Violent interactions at hospitals tie up valuable resources and delay care for other patients



Enhanced criminal penalties have been associated with reduced instances of workplace violence.

Incidence Rates for Nonfatal Assaults and Violent Acts by Industry, 2020

Incidence rates per 10,000 full-time workers



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