



February 14, 2021

Dear House State Administration Committee:

HB 388: “AN ACT GENERALLY REVISING LAWS RELATED TO HEALTH CRISIS PREPAREDNESS; PROVIDING FOR HEALTH CRISIS PREPAREDNESS; ESTABLISHING A HEALTH CRISIS PREPAREDNESS WORK GROUP; REQUIRING THE ACQUISITION AND STORAGE OF PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT AND OTHER SUPPLIES;...

Establishing a rotating stockpile of PPE (Personal Protective Equipment) and other necessary items for crisis preparation and to include the most pertinent and affected stakeholders will contribute to the success of the Health Crisis Preparedness Work Group. Montana Nurses Association appreciates Representative Stafman sponsoring this bill to elicit communication, collaboration, and keeping Montana citizens, no matter the crisis, as safe as possible. HB 388 creates a task force to manage and provide valuable evidence based input into every crisis from earthquakes and flooding to any health emergency or other infectious pandemics. This team approach is what sets Montana apart as we collectively work together to address our state’s challenges. Let us learn from the recent and ongoing PPE challenges our nurses and healthcare workers have experienced from rationing and running out of PPE to repurposing and attempting decontamination of PPE, all of which affects its reliability and safety for our nurses, healthcare workers, and our communities. Please vote yes on HB 338.

Sincerely,

Respectfully,

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