



ANGELO SANTABARBARA, PE
Assemblyman 111th District

THE ASSEMBLY
STATE OF NEW YORK
ALBANY

CHAIR
Committee on
Libraries & Education Technology
COMMITTEES
Energy
Governmental Employees
Mental Health
Racing and Wagering

October 15, 2024

Dr. Dennis McKenna, MD
President & CEO
Albany Medical Center
43 New Scotland Ave
Albany, NY 12208

Dear Dr. McKenna,

As a long-standing advocate for healthcare in our region, I deeply appreciate the vital role that Albany Medical Center plays in serving our community. Nurses are the heart of the hospital, providing critical care to patients every day. I write to express my strong support for the nurses at Albany Medical Center as they work to secure safe staffing levels, fair contracts, and a respectful work environment.

Albany Med has the opportunity to demonstrate its commitment to patient safety and quality care by addressing the concerns raised by its frontline healthcare professionals. Since the New York State Safe Staffing Law took effect in 2022, important staffing deficiencies have been identified. It is essential that the hospital takes swift action to resolve these issues, ensuring that nurses have the support they need to deliver the highest level of care.

Providing fair wages, competitive benefits, and a supportive work environment for nurses is key to maintaining a strong, dedicated workforce. Ensuring nurses feel valued and respected will enhance patient care and help Albany Med continue its tradition of excellence. These steps will help create a work environment where nurses can thrive, allowing them to focus on providing the best care for their patients.

I urge Albany Med's leadership to work in good faith to address these concerns and reach a contract that prioritizes safe staffing, fair compensation, and the well-being of both healthcare workers and the communities they serve.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,

Angelo Santabarbara
Member of the New York State Assembly
111th District | Representing areas of Montgomery & Schenectady Counties