



Wendy D. Darwell, President and CEO

Member Hospitals

**Catholic Health**

Good Samaritan Hospital  
Mercy Hospital  
St. Catherine of Siena Hospital  
St. Charles Hospital  
St. Francis Hospital & Heart Center  
St. Joseph Hospital

**Long Island Community Hospital**

**Mount Sinai South Nassau**

**Nassau University Medical Center**

**Northwell Health:**

Glen Cove Hospital  
Huntington Hospital  
Long Island Jewish Valley Stream Hospital  
Mather Hospital  
North Shore University Hospital  
Peconic Bay Medical Center  
Plainview Hospital  
South Shore University Hospital  
Syosset Hospital

**NYU Langone Hospital Long Island**

**Stony Brook Medicine:**

Stony Brook Eastern Long Island Hospital  
Stony Brook Southampton Hospital  
Stony Brook University Hospital

June 9, 2022

The Honorable XXX  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman/woman:

On behalf of Long Island's hospitals and health systems, I urge you to cosponsor the bipartisan Safety from Violence for Healthcare Employees (SAVE) Act of 2022, introduced this week by Representatives Madeline Dean (D-PA) and Larry Bucshon (R-IN). This bill will provide healthcare workers with similar protections already provided under federal law to frontline airline staff from abusive passengers and violence in the workplace.

According to OSHA, workplace violence – any act or threat of physical violence, harassment, intimidation, or other threatening disruptive behavior that occurs at the work site – is a recognized hazard in the healthcare industry. U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) data shows that the healthcare industry experiences the highest rates of injuries caused by workplace violence; its employees are five times more likely to suffer a workplace violence injury than workers overall. Looking specifically at nurses, a 2016 BLS report showed that violent events accounted for 12.2 percent of all reported injuries to registered nurses that year.

Since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic, our frontline healthcare workers have continued to provide compassionate quality care to their patients while also experiencing a marked increase in workplace violence. The mental and physical toll this pandemic has had on this workforce cannot be ignored or understated. Workplace violence in a healthcare setting causes severe consequences for the entire healthcare system. Frontline healthcare workers cannot provide attentive care when they fear for their personal safety. Increases in violence and intimidation are worsening an already strained workforce. The negative impact on hospital resources can result in interruptions and delays in patient care and quality outcomes.

The surge in assaults on our healthcare workforce cannot continue. This is why I urge you to do everything you can to protect them by cosponsoring the SAVE Act of 2022.

Sincerely,



Wendy D. Darwell  
President and CEO