

Sample Phone Call Message

Healthy Workplace Bill A4257/(Senate number TBD)

Hello, my name is _____; I'm a constituent of (Assemblymember/Senator) and a registered nurse.

May I speak with (him/her) or (his/her) health aide about a bill? (I'd like to leave a message...)

I'm calling about (Assembly/Senate) bill (number in corresponding house), the "Healthy Workplace" bill. I was glad to note that the (Assemblymember/Senator) is a sponsor. I strongly support this bill, which would provide workers with a legal claim for severe bullying behavior and impose liability on both individual aggressors and employees.

- ◆ Workplace bullying is four times more prevalent than sexual harassment. In a study conducted in 2007, over 53 million Americans report being bullied at work. Bullying can involve repeated, malicious, health-endangering mistreatment of one employee by one or more employees, by verbal or non-verbal means.
- ◆ 45% of bullied targets say stress affected their health. These symptoms include stress disorders of all types, clinical depression, high blood pressure, cardiovascular disease, impaired immune systems, and symptoms consistent with Post Traumatic Stress Disorder.
- ◆ Bullying in the workplace is unsafe for patients and nurses. Current law does not protect those who are bullied or encourage employer prevention. Addressing workplace bullying will not only preserve the quality of life for employees, it will also help to decrease the incidence of workplace violence.

Please ask your leadership to bring this bill to the floor for a vote this session so that nurses can provide patient care in a safer work environment.

Would you please make sure that I get a letter in response to my call today? Let me give you my address: _____. If I can provide any additional information, please let me know. The best number to reach me is _____.

Thank you so much for your time!