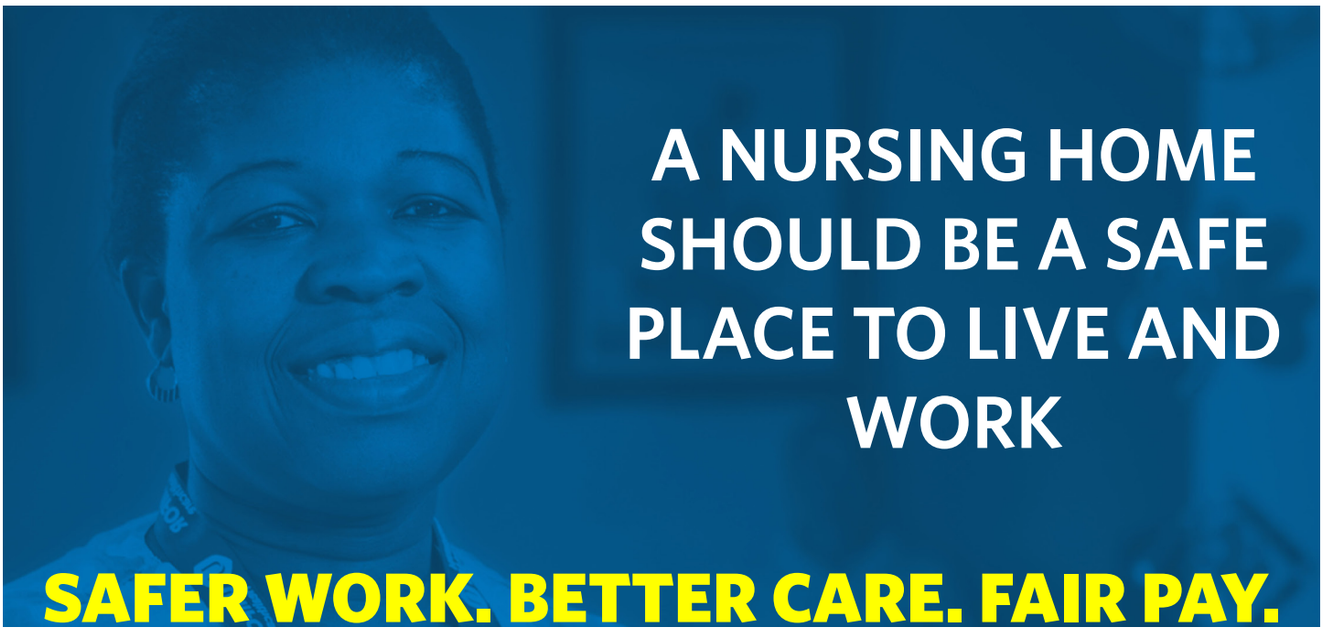

Petition to the Legislative Assembly of Ontario:

Whereas Nursing homes should be a safe place to live and provide quality care for the 77,000 residents of long-term care (LTC) homes is a priority for many Ontario families;

Whereas In Ontario today the ratios of staff to residents is simply too high to provide safe care with dignity, and a recent study of minimum care standards recommends 4.1 hours of direct care per day;

Whereas MPP's voted unanimously in favour of Bill 33, Time To Care Act, second reading on November 2, 2017, which would provide the needed four hours of care for nursing home residents;

Whereas Ontario is experiencing a critical shortage of Personal Support Workers (PSW's) exacerbated by the impossible work expectations as well as less people are entering this profession, and more are leaving;

Whereas The provincial government does not provide adequate funding to ensure care and safe staffing levels in long-term care homes keeps pace with resident's increasing acuity;

Whereas Front line care-givers experience verbal, sexual and physical violence regularly yet these same workers have received wage increases well behind the rate of inflation; and,

We the undersigned petition the Legislative Assembly of Ontario as follows:

1. The Province's newly established minimum care standard of 4 hours must be implemented immediately. Funding for long-term care homes to achieve the staffing and care standard should be provided immediately without delay, instead of a four year phase-in to the standard.
2. To help achieve the established standard of care, the Province should implement mandatory measures to increase the proportion of full-time permanent positions in long-term care homes.
3. As part of its staffing strategy, the Province should ensure that Ontarians have access to expedited training for Personal Support Worker (PSW) accreditation. Expedited training should be fully paid for time spent training and lead to work in the sector immediately.
4. The Province should extend the current wage top-up for PSWs to all long-term workers and establish the top-up as a permanent measure.
5. The Province should take measures to phase out for-profit long-term care homes and transition toward community-based, publicly-owned or non-profit homes.
6. To ensure accountability and proper reporting, the province should make public reporting on staffing levels at each Ontario LTC home mandatory.
7. The announced care standard of a minimum 4 hours per resident each day should be enshrined in legislation through an amendment to the Long-Term Care Homes Act (2007).

Name (Printed)	Address with Postal Code (Printed)	Signature