**TO THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF ONTARIO:**

**WHEREAS,** chronic understaffing is the number one concern of families and friends of residents in Long-Term Care (LTC);

**WHEREAS,** the Long-Term Care Homes Act (2007) empowers the provincial government to create a minimum care standard – but falls short of actually creating one; and

**WHEREAS,** current care levels fail to recognize the increased levels of sickness and rates of Alzheimer's and Dementia of LTC residents; and

**WHEREAS,** the most detailed and reputable studies of minimum care standards recommend at least four (4) hours of direct care per day;

**THEREFORE,** we the undersigned, petition the Legislative Assembly of Ontario as follows:

1. Amend the Long-Term Care Homes Act (2007) so that a long-term care home will have to provide its residents with a minimum of four hours a day of nursing and personal support services, averaged across the residents, as outlined in Bill 188, Time to Care Act.
2. Calculate the average number of direct hours of nursing services and person support services as prescribed by the regulations and exclude hours paid in respect to vacation, statutory holidays, sick leave, leaves of absences and training time.
3. Increase funding to long-term care homes so they can achieve the mandated staffing and care standards and tie public funding for them to the provision of quality care and staffing levels that meet the legislated minimum care standard.
4. Make public reporting of staffing levels at each Ontario LTC home mandatory to ensure accountability.

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