



Chair Salinas and members of the committee, my name is Amanda Bailey I am a member of SEIU 49. I'm a Certified Nursing Assistant and currently work at Kaiser Permanente. I'm writing to you today asking for your support of HB3076.

In 2010 I was diagnosed with Crohn's disease. At that time I was working with Providence Health Systems. After about a year of suffering, trial and error in medication and 100lb weight loss, it was decided I need infusions called Remicade. This medication falls under a chemotherapy drug. Because of the nature of the medicine the total cost of each infusion was \$10,000. I was in need of these infusions every 7 weeks. The health care coverage I received as an employee at Providence was mediocre. I had a \$3500 deductible that needed to be met and \$20 copays. Thankfully with one infusion I met my deductible but was still left with \$1,000 patient responsibility per infusion, which at the time was every 7 weeks.

All of this left me with reoccurring medical bills I could not afford. I made \$11.33 as a CNA 2 at the center for medically fragile children. I was on family medical leave and quite frequently could not make it to work because of my illness.

I applied for assistance to pay my medical bills at the hospital. Their helping hand fund and many other "resources" I was told each time either I was not qualified or they chose someone else. I felt helpless I couldn't pay the bills and because of lack of payment Providence, my employer, sent me to collections and then to court to pay!

Thank God I was given the opportunity to work for Kaiser in 2013 and there I was able to receive my infusions at \$5!!! it was a blessing. This charity care bill will provide the resources for people like me, who don't ask to be sick, the peace of mind and reassurance that we can receive treatment and be treated like a person not a profit.

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