

Submitter: Joshua Engel
On Behalf Of: Beaverton
Committee: Senate Committee On Labor and Business
Measure: SB1549

I oppose this bill as I believe it will create a net loss of health care staff. Currently Oregon does not have enough nurses, Certified Nurses Assists and healthcare workers in general. Putting a cap on travel pay will reduce the number of staff willing to travel to Oregon to support our hospitals. There is an endemic problem of hospital systems not paying their staff enough to be willing to stay. If hospital systems want their staff to stay, have strong nurse to patient ratios, competitive compensation. I do not believe the solution to the staffing problem is to pay everyone less while the healthcare community has held the burden of the pandemic for 2 years.

I am a nurse for 8 years, Emergency RN for 5.