

Submitter: Aleks Cherednichenko

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Labor and Business

Measure: SB1549

As an ICU nurse who works in Oregon I am absolutely appalled that this type of legislation is even being proposed. Instead of investigating how and why the state's non profit hospital systems have made millions of dollars during this pandemic while simultaneously cutting core staff and withholding any sort monetary incentive for their staff, you have decided to turn your attention to staffing agencies that provide these hospitals with support when they need it most. This legislation is deceptive and seeks to turn core staff again travel nurses by painting staffing agencies and the nurses they employ as predatory. Not only is this narrative false, but we as a nursing community see it as yet another insult to our working conditions. Travel nurses are essential and while they are paid more than core staff, you should be asking yourselves why hospitals within our state have failed to retain nurses, all while their CEOs and other administrators receive their yearly bonuses. You should be asking yourselves why nurses are leaving, not how we can make them stay by capping their pay as travelers. Do better.