

Submitter: Seth Mooney

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Behavioral Health and Health Care

Measure: HB2697

The staggering number of of long standing vacant positions across Oregon hospitals is unprecedented, and tells us we have a problem.

These staffing shortages are the result of committed professionals refusing to work in conditions that compromise the quality of the care they give to us as a community. They are increasingly leaving their fields because their working conditions are defined more by executive compensation and corporate financial holdings than they are by quality care patient outcomes.

Hospitals have proven that they will cut staffing to the bone, and risk compromised care, unless they are forced to do otherwise.

This legislation will force them to do what they are currently unmotivated to do: to staff hospitals, at every level of work, in a way that encourages the best in patient outcomes, and in turn motivates healthcare workers to remain in the fields of work and practice where they are so desperately needed.