

Being in the Staffing Industry for five and a half years, I am writing in regards to House Bill 2665, I am writing to strongly oppose letting this bill pass. Even before the COVID pandemic of 2020, our Healthcare System was already strained. When the COVID pandemic did happen in March of 2020, it strained our healthcare system even more and beyond some of its' limits. Healthcare Staffing Agencies were there to help support this need in more ways that can even be described. Every Healthcare worker was on the front lines of this pandemic in front of patients, providing care for them. There were those Healthcare Professionals who left the Healthcare field due to the pandemic and not having enough support. There were those in that Supplemental Staffing pool that stepped up to help, and who went above and beyond their job duties to help navigate through this pandemic. Staffing agencies were there to provide the Staffing to Healthcare Facilities that were in dire need due to their own employees not being able to work due to exhaustion, sickness, or even having COVID themselves. Now that we are out of the pandemic, there is a definite strain on our Healthcare System still. If this bill does pass it would be even more devastating to our Healthcare System and to Healthcare Staffing Agencies. I urge you to not pass House Bill 2665 as healthcare professionals need to be paid fairly and justly for their services. Putting rules in place to cap rates would cause a mass exodus of Healthcare Professionals in Oregon to neighboring states, or leave the healthcare field all together.

Thank you,

Melinda Sheridan