



February 13, 2024

Chair Kropf, Vice-Chairs Anderson and Wallan and Members of the Committee:

My name is Odalis Aguilar Aguilar and I am writing today on behalf of Oregon AFSCME Council 75 in support of HB 4088. Oregon AFSCME represents over 37,000 workers across the State of Oregon in both the public and private sectors. Our membership ranges from the professionals and techs at OHSU to the folks working in local governments that carry out essential services like our own city here in Salem.

HB 4088 is a product of months of collaboration between stakeholders on both sides of the aisle and advocates in order to ensure that the safety of workers is at the forefront. Healthcare workers provide compassionate care to individuals while sometimes putting their own safety at risk. The policies outlined in HB 4088 along with the recommendations in the Hospital Association of Oregon's workplace violence prevention toolkit aim to address the ongoing working conditions health care workers face.

The -2 amendments provide clearer provisions in terms of reporting, transparency and accountability. We are delighted to see that the voice of workers represented by a labor union will continue to be in conversations via the safety committees across hospitals. The reporting mechanism allows DCBS to collect information sent to federal OSHA which will allow for the state to really capture what is happening on the ground. In addition, HB 4088 provides enhanced penalties for certain crimes of assault when the alleged crime was done.

Thank you for the opportunity to share my support for this bill and urge the committee to vote yes on HB 4088.

Odalis Aguilar Aguilar
Political Coordinator
Oregon AFSCME