

Don
Don Nasse State Rep HD42

SB 916B will help level the playing field for workers across Oregon & result in faster contract resolutions. No one should be starved into a contract that perpetuates unsafe working conditions, gross income inequality, or inadequate outcomes for the people they serve

Unions are about thousands of workers coming together for a collective voice. Strikes are just one form collective action for better working conditions:



"We're out here for you, and it may not seem like it because we're not in your homes right now, but we know that this is going to strengthen us. **It'll make your care better and that we're here for the community.**"

Registered Nurse Jo Turner on the ONA Peace Health Home Health and Hospice strike in 2024¹



"A lot of people think that if you work in healthcare you're going to have great health insurance. **That's rarely been the case for me.**"

– Heather Medema, ONA member on the 2025 Providence strike²



"We no longer can afford to sustain an entire family with just this one income. In fact, if this one income has three members in their family without another income, it qualifies you for food stamps."

– Will Paget, BCTGM Local 114 member at Springfield Franz bakery³



"I will not vote yes for anything that sacrifices new people.... **You don't sell them out. You fight for them.** People before me fought for me when I wasn't there."

– Bill Bates, a graveyard-shift mixing department worker with 20 years at Nabisco on the 2021 strike⁴



"This contract is going to be great, not only for our members, **but it's going to be really great for the residents of Benton County,** as their services are going to see some improvements"

– AFSCME Local 2064 member on the 8 day 2024 strike in Benton County⁵

"To be able to get unemployment insurance during this time would have fundamentally changed our lives. The contract we last voted on had many flaws. But I think there's reason to believe it passed because so many of my co-workers across the country couldn't hold out any longer. That's the reality for far too many workers and this bill will help change that for Oregonians."

– Donna Marks, BCTGM Local 364 member who was on strike at Nabisco⁶

¹ https://www.kezi.com/news/peacehealth-nurses-on-strike-in-eugene-springfield-for-the-first-time-in-40-years/article_679a0b52-c879-11ee-90e1-9bb8b84cbfa.html

² <https://www.opb.org/article/2025/01/09/providence-health-care-strike-nurses-doctors-hospitals-oregon/>

³ <https://www.kctv.com/news/local/tanz-bakery-employees-strike-over-unfair-labor-practices>

⁴ <https://mylaborpress.org/2021/08/nabisco-strike-ends-after-39-days/>

⁵ <https://www.klcc.org/politics-government/2024-11-20/benton-county-workers-end-their-strike-following-tentative-agreement>

⁶ <https://olis.oregonlegislature.gov/fz/2025R1/Downloads/PublicTestimonyDocument/201503>

"They are just fighting for what everyone deserves: to live, have a living wage, to eat, to have a home - it's really unfortunate we have to do this. Everyone deserves that."

– Supporter on the 2021 Nabisco strike line

916B HAS BEEN AMENDED MULTIPLE TIMES TO ADDRESS OPPONENT CONCERNS:

- Changed the waiting period for eligibility from 7 days (the eligibility period for other workers seeking UI) to 14 days. Consequently, strikes would have to last longer than 2 weeks for striking workers to be eligible.
- Changed the effective date to Jan. 1, 2026 to ensure successful implementation.
- Addresses proponents' concerns specific to school districts and the total effect of backpay and UI by ensuring that the Employment Department can claw back UI payments if backpay is awarded.
- Responds to the direct ask to change language from "UI benefits received" to "UI benefits charged" to ease with school district administration.
- If the UI Trust Fund reaches Tax Schedule 5 (the point when the UI trust cannot sustain itself) or higher, adds a cap on benefits for workers on strike.

SB 916B PROVIDES A GREAT IMPACT FOR WORKERS WITH A .024% UI TRUST IMPACT

- No projected determinate General Fund fiscal impact from LFO.
- The Oregon Employment Department has repeatedly said on the record that this cost will not be socialized across businesses.
- UI is a partial wage replacement of 40-60% wage replacement at most.

