

Currently 5,000 caregivers are on strike in Oregon due to multiple problems within Providence's vast healthcare company. Stepping away in a unified workers' strike takes tremendous, immeasurable sacrifice. They do it not out of selfishness or greed, but out of urgency, and with impressive sacrifice.

We cannot allow the voices of our most trusted profession in America (ranked #1 for 23 years) to be silenced by the financial toll speaking up inflicts upon their families. Stepping away from the work at the bedside is financially and logistically taxing and in most cases preventive to speaking out in a workers' strike.

This bill would ensure the financial stability for workers who are advocating for better working conditions, patient safety in the healthcare field, and fair wages. If standing up for our worth as Oregonian workers cannot occur because of the financial sacrifice, the power remains with corporations that disregard the voice of its workers. This bill would align with Oregonian values of strong labor unions, equitable treatment, and listening to all voices with something to say, not solely the ones with power.