

Submitter: Oregon Nurse
On Behalf Of:
Committee: House Committee On Labor and Workplace Standards
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB2792

RE: Support for HB 2792

To the House Committee On Labor and Workplace Standards,

I have been a nurse for 25 years, and in the last two years, I have experienced two strikes. As hospital corporations continue to grow, they increasingly cut costs at the expense of their employees, all while CEO compensation continues to rise. These corporations claim they cannot afford to negotiate fair contracts because it's "too costly" and "unsustainable." Yet, during strikes, they spend tens of millions of dollars each week on replacement workers.

Providence, for example, is a non-profit organization, and its financials are public. The amount they are spending on strikebreakers should also be public knowledge. Transparency in this area would highlight whether these financial decisions truly align with their mission and claims of financial hardship.

I urge you to consider this bill that requires hospitals to disclose spending on strike-related costs. This level of transparency would ensure the public and employees understand where resources are being allocated and how those decisions affect the care of our communities.

This is not just about contracts or compensation—it's about holding these organizations accountable so we can provide the best possible care to our patients and uphold the trust of our communities.

Thank you for accepting my testimony and I look forward to your support.
Oregon Nurse