

Submitter: Oregon Physician
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,

Providence spent \$23 million in June 2024 hiring replacement nurses during the nurses' strike.

This year, they are spending \$25 million PER WEEK for replacement workers on this now 4 week strike of the Providence hospitals, rather than settling the contracts for less.

The conditions in the hospitals are currently unsafe with the level of training and some of the attitudes of the temporary workers, who are unfamiliar with the protocols used in our acute care center. I have witnessed this personally bringing a family member in.

They have put a strain on the other hospital systems such as Legacy and OHSU, diverting patients to them, to keep the media image that everything is running smoothly during the strike.

Providence tells the media that the fair contracts are unsustainable, but the issue really is not economic, with the millions they are choosing to spend on strike breaking. It is that of power. Local media stations are beholden to Providence give biased reporting.

The public deserves to know how much Providence is spending on their anti-union activities. The people of Oregon and companies that choose to contract with Providence Health Plan deserve to know how healthcare dollars from insurance premiums, state and federal funding are being used for strikebreaking.

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