

Submitter: Julie Elliott CNA  
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 worked in many terrible conditions from when i first started working in nursing homes as a new cna at the age of 19. I've worked besides replacement staff, or agency workers as i call them, i even was one myself prior to working at providence. Oregon hospitals and health systems spend extravagantly on replacement workforces, with money that could be spent on a fair contract for staff nurses and other caregivers. Instead of paying workers a fair wage, a wage where i dont have to choose between paying my rent or food. As a cna at providence i get paid well below what i could make at a nursing home. Recently prior to the strike we had a flood of agency cna's in December 2024 and i asked "what do you make?" and that pay was well over \$35. I make barely \$24.30 per hour. I have had offers of \$26-27 for my experience at other facilities.

Aside from not paying for staff retainment prior to the strike Id sparsely see agency nurses. It feels we are short every day even when were "fully staffed". But what providence thinks is enough staff for a hospital simply is not enough. Providence wants nurses to take more patients, which is massively unsafe, and reduce the amount of nurses on the hospital floor. For my home unit 2G we have 6 nurses with 4 patients, now that doesn't sound like alot but when you take into account these nurses are getting patients up, feeding, doings medications, doing treatments, four patient's who have varying levels of care are going to need a lot of help from more than just their one nurse.

I don't want to go on and on ill finish up with this, there's a significant amount of money moving around, just look at the busses and hotels these strike nurses are staying at. Its absolutely ridiculous that these people are being flown in from other states instead of just paying your staff a fair wage. Providence has a history of exploiting staff and patients, just take a look at the rev up program that forces patients to make payments on hospital bills that should've been free.

Thank you for accepting my testimony and I look forward to your support.  
Julie Elliott CNA