

Submitter: Jenny Kimsey RN
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 am an RN at Providence St Vincent's hospital. Our union, ONA, has been in negotiations with Prov since Sept of 2023 and we have been working with an expired contract for over a year.

We are asking for safe staffing language, affordable healthcare and competitive wages (we are currently being paid \$10-14 less than our peers at all the other hospital systems in Portland). Several months ago we received an email from of CNO at St V's, stating they couldn't afford to pay us what OHSU pays their nurses because of our mission statement, which is to care for the poor and vulnerable. I am aware that are different reimbursements for non-profits. However, if they truly can't afford to pay us, then how can they afford to pay the replacement workers \$7000 a week, put them up in Embassy Suites, cater their food and pay for their transportation and travel arrangements to Oregon. Prov is also staffing more replacement nurses on each unit then they give us, further driving up the cost. They have taken out costly ads in the papers, radio, buses and sent us all multiple fliers about returning to work. They are paying replacement MD's \$5,000 for 1 12 hour night shift.

If they truly had no money, they would/should have settled before we went on strike instead of dragging it out almost a month before they gave us basically the same TA that they presented us with in 2024.

The public and us deserve to know exactly what they are spending, especially as they attempt to crucify us in the court of public opinion, stating that the nurses are greedy.

Thank you for accepting my testimony and I look forward to your support.
Jenny Kimsey RN