

Submitter: Rita Coghill 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,

As a nurse working at Providence Portland Medical Center for ten years I am continuously appalled by the lack of support to improve the quality of patient care. A major issue I have witnessed personally over ten years is the consistent lack of appropriate nurse to patient staffing ratios. I have worked on almost every unit in the hospital and act as a relief charge nurse on a regular basis. I consistently see our units understaffed with directly effects patient care in a negative way. This is the main reason I am on the strike line - to improve the quality of patient care and safety. I believe the public needs to understand how Providence is spending their money to staff the hospitals during a strike. Nurses want to provide better patient care. Providence has forced us to strike by their continual negligence of our needs. We are willing to sacrifice our own wages to fight for this to happen. By providing hospital strikebreaking costs to the public it will become clear - Providence is spending more money to maintain power. Nurses are losing money to fight for safer patient care.

Thank you for accepting my testimony and I look forward to your support.
Rita Coghill RN