

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

Maverick Grey: Testimony in Support of HB 2792

2/10/25

To the House Committee on Labor and Workplace Standards:

I am writing in support of HB 2792 that would require hospitals to disclose how much they spend to replace their workforces during strikes. These facts are hidden during strikes, which leads to ambiguity and distrust while workers seek to negotiate a fair contract. Hospitals should be held accountable to explain why they can spend X amount of dollars to obtain strike replacements instead of putting that money into retaining their own staff. It would also give more incentive for them to be transparent about other costs they may be facing in general to help workers understand why they might be holding their stance. Data is a grounding force when these arguments often turn emotional; more knowledge sharing could help promote trust and understanding.

Those who have chosen to work on the front lines of healthcare often do so in order to help people. We don't want to be on strike; I would much rather be at the bedside. There is a great deal of moral distress that occurs when healthcare workers are forced to consider whether to strike. It is very difficult to think about the long-term consequences of not having staffing protections and working under an unfair contract while also thinking about the short-term consequences of having to leave our patients in the hands others.

As our hospitals continue to merge and amass power, it is more important than ever that there be transparency around financial matters - for the workers and the general public.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comment. I appreciate your consideration.

Best Regards,
Maverick