

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

I strongly support House Bill 2792, which would require hospitals to disclose their spending on replacement workers during strikes or lockouts.

The current Providence strike has affected me in that I am a nurse at another local hospital and we have seen an increase in our patient volume with many stating they came to us because they know what's going on at Providence and didn't want to go there. This winter has been terrible for all of the illnesses going around. The fact that the other local hospitals are having to see and care for even more of our community with no change to our staff volume has started to take its toll. We stand with our nurses standing up for patient safety! It's time for a change, starting with holding companies like Providence responsible to the community for how they're spending money that comes from tax payers.

This bill promotes transparency and public accountability in healthcare spending. Hospitals receive significant taxpayer funding through Medicare and Medicaid, and the public deserves to know how these funds are allocated, especially during labor disputes. For example, reports suggest that some hospitals spend tens of millions weekly on replacement workers, yet these costs remain hidden from taxpayers. Transparency will not interfere with labor negotiations but will ensure hospitals prioritize long-term investments in their workforce rather than costly short-term measures. This is essential for maintaining trust and improving Oregon's healthcare system.

I urge you to support HB 2792 and advocate for its passage. Thank you for your leadership and commitment to Oregon's communities.