

Submitter: Oregon Nurse
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,

It's unacceptable that hospitals and health systems in Oregon are spending excessively on replacement workers instead of investing in fair contracts for staff nurses. We need transparency on how much employers are avoiding spending that could go toward a fair contract. Healthcare workers strike to protect the populations they serve and to advocate for the quality of Oregon's healthcare system, which we all rely on. Strikes are only chosen when employers refuse to prioritize safety, worker input, and key issues like recruitment and retention. During strikes, hospital systems often blame workers for disruptions to operations, morale, and transparency. While they spend significant resources managing strikes and lockouts, these costs are rarely disclosed, hiding the financial and ethical consequences of their spending from staff nurses and other workers. This lack of transparency damages trust between hospitals, employees, and the public.

Thank you for accepting my testimony and I look forward to your support.
Oregon Nurse