

Submitter: John Cusick 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,

If we want to invest in sustainable healthcare practices (which we should as a state and as a nation), then we must respect healthcare workers in what they ask for to provide safe patient care. When nurses go on strike for valid concerns with our healthcare system, Oregon hospitals spend a huge amount of money on replacement workers during strikes, when they could instead use that money to commit to a fair contract for their own staff.

Forcing hospitals to be transparent in how much they pay replacement staff may shine a light on the true economic toll that healthcare systems are willing to accept, at the risk of their community's health and well being. Nurses and healthcare workers should not be made to be the scapegoat of costing the hospital tons of money during strikes when the money is actually being funneled into the hospital's C-suite and replacement staff.

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

John Cusick RN