



From the Office of  
Senator Michael Dembrow

## **AFSCME Urges your support of HB 2618**

HB 2618 adds the employees of the Stabilization and Crisis Unit to the Police and Fire section of PERS allowing them to retire after 25 years of work. The bill has received broad support and passed unanimously out of House Business and Labor and Ways and Means Human Services Subcommittee and received bi-partisan support in the full Joint Ways and Means Committee. AFSCME is grateful for this broad support.

### **Background:**

Many of the clients in the Stabilization and Crisis Unit (SACU) have complex needs that make their needs for behavioral supports more intense. The SACU homes are a last resort placement for clients who are in crisis.

In 1994, the Oregon Court of Appeals deemed the work of the state-operated group homes as strike prohibited, just like other job classifications who receive the P&F PERS.

Providing supports for the Stabilization and Crisis Unit clients is both physically and emotionally draining. In addition to providing day to day care, it also means that when a client is experiencing behavioral issues that could cause harm to themselves or others, staff must intervene. Injuries are common, sometimes bad enough to receive medical attention and counseling. As we all know, as we age, it becomes more difficult to recover from injuries, even smaller ones.

**Please vote YES on HB 2618 and allow the staff of the Stabilization and Crisis Unit the retirement they deserve.**

