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TO: Chair Taylor
Vice-Chair Knopp
Members of the Senate Committee on Workforce

FR: Jessica Giannettino, Oregon AFL-CIO

RE: *Oregon AFL-CIO Support for SB 828 with -3/-4 amendments*

April 3, 2017

My name is Jessica Giannettino representing the over 300,000 working Oregonians of the Oregon AFL-CIO. Thank you for the opportunity to testify in strong support of SB 828, with the -3 and -4 amendments and efforts to ensure fair and predictable scheduling practices for workers.

The State Federation of Labor has been the long-term advocate for greater worker protections and an economy that works for ALL Oregonians. Despite the good work, from our perspective, done by this Committee, and the Oregon Legislature over the last two years to do just that, and the strong indicators of the health of Oregon's economy, low-wage workers, especially in certain industries, face ongoing and worsening conditions as it relates to the predictability of their work schedules. When one in six Oregon workers has less than a 24 hour notice of their shifts, this is an imbalance in our economy that should not be overlooked.

Just because a worker is a part of the low-wage economy does not mean they don't have children at home, or other significant family or educational responsibilities. In fact, cashiers and people working in fast food are 2.5 times as likely as the broader labor force to be enrolled in school, and attempting to provide a better life for themselves and their children. The scheduling irregularities these workers face make it almost impossible to work more than one job, go to school or plan to be present regularly in their families' lives.

While most employers throughout Oregon's economy are doing the right thing and, from the perspective of a worker, use adequate scheduling practices, some employers, especially those in specific industries like food service, retail and hospitality, are often not doing their part and are keeping workers in a cycle of poverty.

Thank you, again, for the opportunity to testify in support of SB 828 with the -3 and -4 amendments and the efforts to create a Fair Work Week for Oregon's workforce that are in occupations projected to add the most jobs to the Oregon economy in the next eight years.