

Testimony In Support of HB 3402

Chair Holvey and Members of the Committee I would love to come the hearing today. I, however, work till 1400 and cannot get relief to come. I can give you some examples and specific times concerning our mandates. This is a big issue for our facility. I have worked at Coffee Creek Correctional Facility for fifteen years.

When the weather was bad this last December and January many people could not get into work. I spent 3 hours getting studs on my vehicle so I could get into work. I got 4 hours of sleep before returning to work the next day. I would drive from South East Clackamas County to Beaverton to pick up a fellow co-worker so that there would be at least two of us for work. I would get up at Midnight to go pick up my co-worker to be at work at 2:00 am to split a shift with other co-workers. We stayed in a hotel one night to be sure to be able to come back to work the next day. I still got mandated to work twice with in the first two weeks of January. I got sick at the end of February beginning of March. I was to be mandated on a Sunday. A volunteer came in for overtime. Because I was getting over being ill, I went home instead of a co-worker. I came in to work because no one what available to fill in if I was out sick. I was on antibiotics for over 24 hours so I was not contagious. The next day I was mandated again. I went home at 8:00 pm and called in for the next day. There was no way to come in as I had to use my Rescue Inhalers frequently and was up all night.

We have a number of open positions that are not filled at the beginning of the work week. If someone does not volunteer to fill the position someone will be mandated. We have people who volunteer regularly to fill open positions. They may fill two days of open positions and still be mandated the next day for a shift. We have individuals who trade and work doubles making it so that person is not eligible for Mandates. This means that there are fewer people to share the open positions. We do have people out on FMLA and new staff being trained. There is one problem with having so many new staff is that number of individuals able to train the new staff is very few. Managers do not train new hires. The Nurses must do their positions and train new staff. That can mean also having to do a regular position, staff training, and a mandate in one day. Please let me know if I can help with anything.

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