

To the Oregon Joint Special Committee in Coronavirus Response,

I am resident who was unemployed before the COVID-19 crisis hit. Because I was fired from my last employer for "misconduct" (though in actuality I was trying to form a union and was retaliated because of it), the Oregon Unemployment Department denied by claim and I am not able to start a new claim until I make a certain amount of money with another employer. I was hired on March 13th, but the next day my employer took back their job offer. While I am finding it impossible to find work now, I am finding it impossible to find another job because of the crisis.

And so I am e-mailing to urge you to please make sure the following workers get the help they need during this crisis

1. Gig and contract workers

2. Workers who were unemployed prior to the COVID-19 crisis and do not qualify to start a new claim until they receive 4X what their allotted weekly claim benefit would have been had they qualified for unemployment. These workers continue to be unemployed because it is impossible to find work now due to the COVID-19 crisis.

Thank you for your work!

Sheena Sisk