

I would like to make a statement as a private citizen.

I have worked with OED for 12 years this June. I have been both a BES and currently am an adjudicator. Since March 26th, I have been out with COVID 19 symptoms multiple times because of the building I work in and no protective gear supplied to co-workers. I work the 'night shift' 2pm-1030pm and I am the only person that wears a mask. I see 2 people that walk around with masks hanging around their necks but never have put over their faces. Management does not either. I see lead workers and managers in each others cubicles (within 6 feet) not wearing masks. I have brought it up to upper management, and told is not acceptable, but I see it continue.

I went out 3/26/20- 4/15/20. Got sick 4/15/20 mid shift, out again 4/16/20-4/24/20 with COVID symptoms. Went out again 5/13/20-5/20/20 again with covid symptoms and asthmas issues and have been given numerous different inhalers and steroids. Again on 5/21/20 with asthma attack 4 hours into my shift, and dr kept me out 5/22/20 for another covid test. I am not the only one that is sick with symptoms, out, comeback for a day or two and out again for another week or two. There are anywhere from 11-40 call outs daily I am told as well as long term and short term leave because of health issues. These numbers are for Beaverton and Bend UI centers alone. (seasoned employees). I have asked my doctor now for anxiety medication because of the anxiety and stress of walking into this office where co-workers don't wear masks, there has only been 1 deep cleaning in the Beaverton office and we have people working here 7 days per week as well as people in and out because of symptoms and being sick. There is no reason we cannot use our equipment and work from home as we did in the pilot program prior to David Gerstenfeld taking charge. I would also like to know why he has been telling adjudicators that this is and will be a telecommute position and he tells DAS and the State it is not and never will be. As of 3/4/20 adjudication was marked as a telecommute position. Because BES and Adjudicators are not allowed to work from home or even a work source office in smaller groups, since they are not open to the public, we are not serving the public as we could. Our hands are being tied by the executive branch.

There is absolutely no reason we cannot work from home, other than a control issue by the executive branch. Who do not perform our jobs.

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