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Two weeks prior to schools shutting down I emailed all managers in the Bend UI Center with my concerns of the lack of PPE available to employees and the lack of concern the managers seemed to have regarding COVID-19. I also gave them a list of solutions to my concerns such as requesting all employees to disinfect their areas and common place areas on a daily basis, asking employees to stay home if they are ill or have a cough and replacement of air filters. I asked these things because more than a quarter of total employees were displaying symptoms of COVID-19, mostly a cough since we have poor filtration being we work in an older building. In response the managers forwarded an email from July 2019 with out any additional information or even acknowledging COVID-19. The email forwarded said "Reminder to wash your hands and stay home if you are sick." This was concerning to myself and many co-workers that the management team was not taking COVID-19 seriously. I then directly spoke to the office manger Cathy Brosnan-Trepus with my concern that the managers didn't truly understand my concern. She said she was going to have a meeting to see what they can do the following Tuesday. Did they ever have a meeting? Unsure, because there was no communication and Tuesday had passed. I sent another email and was met with silence. I was truly scared to work, I was frightened that I may contract COVID-19 and give it to my children, husband and family. During this time my anxiety levels were the highest they had ever been. I found myself calling in I'll due to my anxiety and fear of working due not feeling safe at work and contracting the virus. I decided to take a leave of absence after being met with silence since my fear only grew because of that and my anxiety was about to become uncontrollable. Work also has on record my anxiety and mental health issues, my manager is also completely aware of them since I trust her enough to let her into that piece of my life so she can understand me better. That was March 13, 2020. I have not been back to work since.

I immediately requested to work from home since my anxiety stemmed from my fear of contracting COVID-19 at the workplace. I wanted to help Oregonians, and I am a quick, thorough, experienced employee not only for adjudication, but for claims also and have been completely capable of helping since my leave began. I was denied being able to work from home.

I tried to return to work part time starting 6/1/20 during my normal work schedule sometime between 7:00am-3:30pm and contacted my manager who said working those hours was not available to me due to split shifts swing shift was only available. I was denied. I asked to work the second half of the evening shift, I was told there was not a business need for that since the system shuts off at 7:00pm. I was denied. I asked to work from home. Still denied. I asked to work in the Work Source Office and was told the phone system there doesn't support CISCO. So again, I was denied. On 5/21/20 I found out a part time worker just stopped working her 9:00am-1:00pm shift. I immediately messaged my manager asking her if I can take her place. I was ignored three times before I got an answer. I again was denied. I was told a full time employee who was returning to work is taking her spot. As of today 6/1/20 that spot has not been filled.

I am now in my final week of protected leave and paid leave and still have not been allowed to return to work. After this week I will be in LWOP and no income for my family. I'm scared to lose my job, I'm scared to not have any income to support my family, I'm scared of still contracting

COVID-19 at work, but have no choice to return to work, however I can only work part time due to childcare issues. I have only someone to watch my children part time.

We need the ability to be able to work from home. We need management to step up and MAKE THAT HAPPEN. It is not AN OPTION. We need to help our OREGONIANS and now I will be among the 40,000 employees who will file for unemployment and not be paid for weeks on end because of the backlog.

Thank you for your time.

In Solidarity,
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Sent from my iPhone