



February 7, 2022

To Whom It May Concern:

Established in 1978, Emerald Staffing is a locally owned and operated staffing and recruitment company. We have a long history of helping candidates land their dream careers, while at the same time helping our clients build amazing teams. To this end both help our local and state economy through payroll, payroll taxes and our new Corporate Activity Tax.

SB 1549 threatens the very fabric of our free enterprise system by setting rates in a manner that will make it impossible for Emerald Staffing as well as our friendly competitors the ability to operate in the state.

Nurse staffing rate caps, which are costly and burdensome to administer, are unnecessary and counterproductive because they will distort the nursing market and reduce the availability of nurses. They are a blunt instrument that will penalize most agencies, such as mine, that are acting responsibly, and will aggravate the nurse shortage.

Agencies like Emerald Staffing are hired by our healthcare partners to help attract, recruit and place skilled nursing within their organizations. This is because we are the experts in staffing. Our clients are experts in clinic / hospital operations. They are not experts in the art and practice of recruitment. This is no different than me asking my local barista to repair my car. My local barista is wonderful at making my iced vanilla latte every morning, they are not as skilled at repairing my car engine. We all have our strengths and expertness. To this end, SB 1549 will have a profound impact on our economy as well as, our ability to attract the necessary nursing talent to Oregon, where we are already facing a healthcare staffing crisis.

I am always available and happy to meet with our State leadership to discuss exactly how our industry works. My direct line is: 503.212.0002

With respect, I request we vote NO on SB 1549.

In Kindness,

John Burton, Jr., CPC
President
Emerald Staffing Inc.