



June 9, 2023

To: Co-Chair Holvey
Co-Chair Girod
Senator Lew Frederick
Senator Bill Hansell
Senator Elizabeth Steiner
Senator Rob Wagner
Representative Vikki Breese-Iverson
Representative Nancy Nathanson
Representative Dan Rayfield
Representative Greg Smith

Fr: Matt Swanson, Political Strategist

Re: Support for House Bill 3396, with the Dash 4 Amendment

Co-Chairs Holvey and Girod and Members of the Committee:

The Service Employees International Union, representative thousands of Oregon health care workers in acute care hospitals, clinics, long term care facilities and a variety of other care settings is very enthusiastic in our support for HB 3396. This reflects an important part of a larger agreement between stakeholders seeking to address staffing levels in hospitals across our state. I would like to highlight two important pieces of this bill as it relates to our membership:

1. Acute care facilities and discharge policies (Section 1). We are particularly excited about the potential to see progress in developing new innovative care models (section C) and addressing the need to improve the delivery of community based care for those who would benefit from these services (Section E). These issues are complex, but require our best effort to improve systems of care for Oregonians, including placing them in the appropriate care settings.
2. Allocations to clinical placement incentive payments (Section 5) and payments to employers to aid in their work develop strong worker pipelines through joint labor management trusts (Sections 6 and 7). SEIU is part of two such trusts, RISE Partnership¹ and the Shirley Wave Education Fund². The opportunity to increase resources to these programs will help address acute workforce challenges in many of our facilities in high demand professions. The Oregon Health Authority should work with the Centers for Medicaid Services to ensure that these programs can maximize available federal matching funds. It is our understanding that there is a very strong interest from the federal government to match our investment in ways that will greatly improve the reach of these two allocations.

¹ [Our Programs | RISE Partnership](#)

² [Shirley Ware Education Center - Education Fund \(theedfund.org\)](#)



Service Employees International Union – Oregon State Council

Thank you for the opportunity to speak in favor of these important investments in our workforce and health systems.

Sincerely,

Matt Swanson
Political Strategist
SEIU Oregon State Council