

Submitter: Helen Callahan RN  
On Behalf Of:  
Committee: Senate Committee On Labor and Business  
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB916

RE: Support for SB 916

To the Senate Committee On Labor and Business,

In the case of my employer, it's a "non profit." While raking revenue in billions of dollars in yearly, our administrators focus is on expanding their company and enriching their own bank accounts. They undermine the warnings of their employees; the doctors and nurses. They sweep patients' feedback under the rug.

Their business model is a house of cards, fated to fall-- and they (administration) don't care. Who is going to hold them accountable? The media? Nope-- corporate sponsorships pay local media outlets. The community? That would be us, the professionals, the people who grease and run "the engine." No one knows the system better than us. Now we're outside with our signs in the rain, snow and sleet sending out our message.

The administrators use the money that we earned for the hospital, to burn it on scab nurses, to pay off negative press from patients, pay off media outlets. They use their platform to accuse us of greed. We're not asking for money, we're asking for safety of our patients. We're asking for a voice on decisions impacting our patients. We're also asking for decent access to healthcare especially as our bodies are prone to breaking down as well. We are not greedy because we have chosen to stand outside in the frigid weather (without pay). We are motivated to stand up for oaths we made as healthcare professionals. We're not running away because things got hard, though that would be far easier to do.

Our company has been enriched by our blood, sweat and tears over the years and sits warm and comfortable inside. They are not burdened by the elements we experience or guilt. They have shown that they are detached from the impacts of their decisions and will continue to be unless we continue to take a powerful stand.

Employment benefits would give financial leverage to all striking employees who have to face corporate administrators with unchecked financial power. This would help force the employee to negotiate with unions in good faith and restore proper service to our communities faster.

Thank you for this opportunity for allowing me to share my written testimony. I hope

this passes and benefits people in the future.  
Helen Callahan RN