

Submitter: Michelle Jackson
On Behalf Of: ONA
Committee: Senate Committee On Labor and Business
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB916

My name is Michelle Jackson. I'm a Registered Nurse and a member of ONA union. I support SB 916 which would repeal the law blocking unemployment benefits to workers on strike. This bill would help ensure that workers are able to stay afloat while fighting for a fair contract.

As a bedside RN in the state of Oregon I have participated in 2 strikes during the last 2.5 years. I have done so in order to send a message to hospital CEO's and administrators that working conditions and patient safety continue to be compromised due to current practices.

Participation in these strikes has come with a significant sacrifice and resulted in financial strain and economic destabilization.

Ending this exclusion of UI benefits for strikes that go over 7 days will help make sure that workers like me can continue to pay our rent, feed our families and basic necessities.

I am writing this letter as today marks day 31 of the strike.

Thank you for considering this petition, that will help striking workers and prevent financial ruin to working Oregonians