

Submitter: Lindsay Eminowicz  
On Behalf Of:  
Committee: Senate Committee On Labor and Business  
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB916

Hello, I am a nurse that works at a Providence hospital in Oregon. I have been at this hospital for 8 years. I love my work and I find great fulfillment in serving my community. I stayed at my hospital through COVID. I worked endless hours to meet the hospitals needs to serve our community. Providence is a multi billion dollar company. They have stadiums and parks. They have CEOs making 8 figure pay checks. They are paying millions of dollars for replacement workers in an effort to not give their current employees a fair market wage. I am a single mother. I rent a home. My family cannot afford to fight against a giant corporation such as Providence. Providence has almost 6000 ONA represented nurses that are currently on strike fighting for market wages and safe staffing. Providence has changed our insurance without representation and many nurses and their families can no longer afford life saving care. Providence has taken away our sick pay. Providence has made it so hard to retain staff that hospitals cannot meet the legally required minimum staffing. The ONA represented nurses are fighting for our families and our patients. The sad reality is that Providence has the money to wait us out. Our nurses, including my family, are facing housing insecurity and food scarcity. Workers have the right to strike. Big corporations have the financial leverage to make employees lose everything and fold before they are required to make a fair agreement. By offering these striking workers unemployment benefits it will level the playing field. Corporations will not be able to force employees back to work with subpar contracts due to financial instability and constraints. The on strike nurses are fighting for our families as well as the communities they serve. I am asking that you also fight for us and every other striking worker by offering us benefits that help us stay on the line and continue to fight for what is fair and equitable.

Thank you for reading my testimony.