

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

My name is Jenny Spinning and I am a nurse care manager at Providence. I'm a member of the Oregon Nurses Association and one of the THOUSANDS currently on strike. I am here to urge your support of Senate Bill 916.

As single mother I am the sole breadwinner for my household. I have been on strike for over a month. I have a son in college, a daughter in high school and I am also a graduate student. This strike has forced me into an economic crisis. While I have struggled to maintain my household, keep my mortgage paid and afford the cost of tuition for myself and my son. Providence is literally starving me out of house and home as I raise my voice to fight for patient safety through improved staffing and the oversight it requires through the Oregon Health Authority. We simply can't trust Providence to act in the best interest of the patients WE NURSES serve; as evidenced by the outcome of the recent investigations conducted by the OHA which revealed violations at more than one Providence hospital.

In 2025, Providence forced all employees to switch to Aetna health insurance and as a result I am facing drastically increased costs for mental health services for my daughter. This year I already have close to \$1000 in bills from services that would have been covered under our previous healthcare plan.

I am not alone in this struggle. I think about colleagues of mine like a fellow nurse who is also a single mother and has 3 children — two under age 5 and in daycare. I think about the ones that have 30+ years of service and are nearing retirement and have medical issues and procedures planned this year. My colleagues are fierce patient advocates. They're principled, but they're up against too insurmountable of a force, in Providence's economic leverage in the strike. We need a more level playing field so we can have conditions that take care of everybody.

This is why I fight. This is why I am on strike, and I am willing to hold the line as long as it takes. Please consider the pleas of healthcare workers across the state and vote in favor of SB 916 for the good of Oregon's healthcare workers and citizens.

Thank you