

Submitter: Dane Beck

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Labor and Business

Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB916

My name is Dane, and I am a registered nurse at Providence Milwaukie Hospital. I am currently on strike, not because I want to be, but because unsafe working conditions are putting both patients and staff at risk. Striking comes at great personal sacrifice, forcing us to forgo income while fighting for a stronger, safer healthcare system.

Many of my coworkers and I are in the same position, struggling with difficult financial decisions while standing up for what is right. Unemployment benefits during a strike would provide a crucial safety net, preventing workers from facing financial ruin simply for advocating for better patient care.

If SB 916 were law, it would have given us greater leverage at the bargaining table, preventing employers from using financial hardship as a weapon against us. We strike not just for ourselves, but for our communities and the future of healthcare in Oregon. The system should support us when we take this stand. I urge you to pass SB 916.