

RE: Support for SB 916

To the Senate Committee On Labor and Business,

There are not many ways we can hold corporate healthcare greed accountable, but unemployment for striking workers could be a start. Hospitals are capitalizing on offering bad healthcare to our community. Nurses should not have 5-6 patients to take care of when we know safe staffing saves lives. Hospitals need to be held accountable and nurses who took an oath to do no harm are facing daily instances of moral injury by being asked to do more with less. The pandemic exploded the exploitation of the profession of nursing. While news outlets try to encourage complaints of nursing pay, there are no salary caps for those in the C-suites each making tens of millions of dollars while nurses are at the bedside without a cost of living raise. Our community members deserve better care and unfortunately the best way for nurses to get contracts with safe staffing is by striking. Hospitals get strike insurance, nurses should get unemployment for doing what is best for their patients.

Thank you for accepting my testimony and I look forward to your support.

Teresa RN