

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

RE: Support for SB 916

To the Senate Committee On Labor and Business,

As a nurse currently on the picket line at Providence Portland Medical Center, I can attest first-hand to the detrimental financial impact of going on strike. I am a mother of two young children, and my family does not receive any assistance from anyone outside of our household. In fact, we financially assist other relatives and family members, as we provide the sole care for our elderly parents. My income is vital to our household's ability to pay our bills as well as helping our other family members pay theirs.

However, like so many others in this situation, my family and I have chosen to make the monetary sacrifice to go on strike and forego paycheck after paycheck until we can come to a favorable agreement. We are on the picket line to advocate for our community and our patients. I strongly believe that it is imperative that our Oregon neighbors and friends are able to take comfort in knowing that their nurse is able to have the time safeguards to provide the best care for them when they enter our hospital doors, especially when they are in their most vulnerable state.

My pockets are not as deep as Providence's, or any other large company. Our family funds have dwindled during this strike, and there will be a lasting financial impact on us even after the strike has been resolved. My family feels the loss of my income strongly during this time, yet we still try to stay on the picket line just one more day, every day, with the end goal of providing a higher standard of care for our community.

I implore you, please help my striking family, as well as others like mine by allowing unemployment benefits extend to us. Just that help can keep us advocating for Oregonians for yet another day.

Thank you so much for your time and consideration.

Best,  
Carol, BSN, RN