

Submitter: Catherine Baltzor

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Labor and Business

Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB916

I am opposed to SB916 for several reasons. SB916 would allow workers that choose to walk off their job to collect unemployment benefits. This is not the intent of unemployment insurance. It is there to support workers who INVOLUNTARILY lose their job. By allowing workers to collect unemployment, workers and unions would not be in too big of a hurry to negotiate. Why would they if the workers are getting paid to strike? This bill would also increase employer costs, which are already too high! Businesses have moved from Oregon due to our tax system; simply Oregon is not business friendly. We are ranked 3rd for the highest of the states for employer paid unemployment tax. This bill would harm Oregon's economy as businesses would choose to locate to a more business friendly state where the taxes are much lower.

I strongly urge you to oppose this bill!