

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

My name is David Gettman and I'm a union representative and a member of BCTGM Local 114 union. I support SB 916 which would repeal the law blocking unemployment benefits to workers on strike. This bill would help ensure that workers are able to stay afloat while fighting for a fair contract. Our bakers stood up to United States Bakery in Springfield this last winter and had they been able to use the unemployment benefits, they would have won their fight for better working conditions. Because the company had beat them down so bad over the years, they could not afford to stand up against the company for more than three weeks before risking houselessness. If we could have stayed on the strike line just two more weeks, I feel they would have won. Won the fight to take unpaid time off. Won the fight to know more than a few hours in advance what their work schedule would be the next day. won the fight to have two days off in a week. Won the fight to be paid a living wage and won the fight to have equal, fair and safe working conditions. Oregon Union workers need help and the repeal of the law blocking unemployment benefits to workers on strike will help them greatly!