

Submitter: Anne Groundwater

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Labor and Business

Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB916

I would like to voice my support for SB 916. I am a nurse with Providence and have currently been on strike for over a month. Providence is a large corporation and they have shown our local nurses that they have the deep pockets to wait us out. They are hoping we cave, go back to work because we need a paycheck and accept the poor contract they are currently offering. This contract lacks safe staffing protections for our staff that affects how well we can care for our patients here in Oregon. Allowing us to have unemployment benefits would mean we would be able to stay on the strike line longer to ensure corporations don't get to lower the standards of healthcare in our state. It would mean that corporations would be pressured to prioritize contract negotiations to avoid a strike instead of refusing to bargain and then dragging their heels as Providence has done. Our workers need these benefits to ensure that corporations aren't destroying the safety standards we've created here in Oregon.