

Submitter: Sergio Acena  
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,

I'm a member of AFSCME local 328. As a union member I support the bill to extend unemployment benefits to striking workers. The choice to strike is not an easy one. My local authorized a strike in 2022, thankfully we settled the contract with OHSU. Workers in this situation face a difficult choice, between maintaining a public good and maintaining their standard of living. I believe more strikes could be avoided if unemployment benefits are given to workers as it would force employers to come to the table in good faith and settle faster. Senate Bill 916 would help level the playing field for workers who are the backbone of this state.

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