

Submitter: Steve Nyburg  
On Behalf Of:  
Committee: Senate Committee On Natural Resources and Wildfire  
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB78

Oppose SB 916 – Don't make us pay for union strikes!

Dear Senators, Senator Taylor, Woods, Pham

I am writing to express my strong opposition to SB 916, which would allow striking workers to collect unemployment benefits. Oregon's unemployment insurance system is designed to support workers who lose their jobs involuntarily, not those who choose to walk off the job. Expanding benefits to striking workers would place an additional burden on taxpayers in the name of offering your union allies (your strongest campaign donors) a political favor.

The same unions that back SB 916 also pushed Ballot Measure 113 in 2022, which punishes legislators for exercising their right to deny quorum. At the time, AFL-CIO argued that "regular people in Oregon show up to their jobs, day in and day out," and that politicians should "face real consequences" for skipping work. AFL-CIO's Deputy Political & Legislative Director even stated, "By voting YES on Measure 113, we can create real consequences for politicians who want special treatment when they skip work."

Now, the same unions are supporting SB 916 which goes against the interests of small business owners, school districts, and everyday Oregonians like me who are already struggling with rising costs and high taxes.

I urge you to vote NO on SB 916.