Join the Statewide Fight for Safe Staffing!

It's time to stand up and be heard in our state capital to fight for safe staffing! We are pushing hard at the bargaining table for improvements to nurse staffing and also joining our colleagues across the state to pass new legislation to improve working conditions in hospitals.

Hearings on our safe staffing legislation, HB 2697, are being held by the Oregon legislature on Monday, Feb. 27, and Tuesday, Feb. 28. We need your help to show lawmakers how important this issue is to us and our community! Wear your ONA swag so they will know that you support this vital legislation.

Please register to attend the hearings here: https://www.oregonrn.org/page/legislativehearings

Can't make it to Salem? We still need your staffing story to share with legislators. Please submit your story here: oregonrn.org/SafeStaffing-stories You can also check out stories already shared at the link above by nurses from around the state including our own Mackenzie Chown, from 12C.

We believe HB 2697 is vital to fixing Oregon’s collapsing healthcare system. It will put numerical safe staffing standards for nurses to patients in hospital settings by unit; expand the staffing committee structure to service, technical, and professional allied health care workers; and require the state to enforce the staffing law. In addition to working in coalition with other unions in Oregon including AFSCME and SEIU, we are in close partnership with OFNHP, our fellow AFT-Oregon affiliate. And we are even stronger thanks to support from our national union, AFT.

Please Note: While OHSU has clear rules about not utilizing paid work time or OHSU resources to take part in certain types of political work due to state laws regarding use of state resources, those rules only apply when you are working on paid time or using OHSU resources. You may speak publicly while on unpaid time. To avoid any confusion, you may want to state clearly that you are not a spokesperson for OHSU and only speaking on your own behalf. We believe that even without such a statement, as long as you are not claiming to speak on behalf of OHSU or using OHSU resources, they cannot restrict your free speech on your own time. It is against the law for OHSU to retaliate against you for exercising your free speech rights outside the
workplace. Every nurse should be empowered and supported to speak up for safe staffing, and we hope to see you in Salem!

Open Virtual Bargaining Tomorrow!

As a reminder, all AURN bargaining sessions* are open to members to observe. Please join us Wednesday, Feb. 8 at 10 a.m. for a virtual bargaining session.

This session will be held on the WebEx platform.
Link: https://ohsu.webex.com/ohsu/j.php?MTID=mf79debb89f3c4e026f2e2ebf2a896
Webinar number (access code): 2622 9743176
Webinar password: MJm3V5PbFt2

*Bargaining sessions are open for observation, but only bargaining team members and invited guests can speak or use the chat feature. Send your feedback and thoughts to your CAT members, bargaining team, and labor reps.