

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

October 10, 2025

Sarina Roher
President
Oregon Federation of
Nurses and Health Professionals
11560 SW 67th Ave
Tigard, OR 97223

Wendy Watson
President
Kaiser Foundation Health Plan and
Hospitals of the Northwest
500 NE Multnomah St
Portland, OR 97232

Dear Ms. Roher and Ms. Watson,

We urge you to work together and bargain in good faith to reach a contract agreement between Kaiser Permanente and the Oregon Federation of Nurses and Health Professionals (OFNHP). We understand that contract negotiations began this spring, and that the contract expired on September 30, 2025. This left nearly 4,000 healthcare workers without a contract while still performing their duties. As a result, they have taken the extraordinary step of authorizing a strike set to begin on October 14th if the outstanding contract issues are not resolved.

As policymakers we have a profound appreciation for the essential role nurses and other frontline health care providers serve in our health care system. Nurses are at the bedside for patients and families during their most challenging moments. These health care professionals bring clinical expertise, sound decision making, and endless compassion to their work. They deserve a contract that recognizes these roles, treats them with dignity and respect, and keeps pace with rising costs in the region.

We have met with nurses and health care workers who have told us how much they care about their profession and their patients, and also about the stress of this role and the challenges they face.

Similarly, we have met with hospital administrators who are grappling with unsustainable budgets, increased costs, and looming uncertainty about the harmful effects of HR 1, the Republican law that will slash Medicaid, which will be catastrophic not only for Oregonians who rely on Medicaid, but also for clinics, hospital systems, and health care providers.

We understand how challenging and uncertain these times are.

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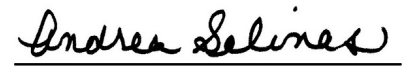
Despite these challenges, we call on you to work together to bring a true spirit of collaboration and problem solving to the table and reach an agreement that Oregon can be proud of. We have seen both of your organizations tackle significant challenges in the past, and we urge you to bring that spirit to the bargaining table.

A strike should be a last resort. It will affect patient care and will inevitably carry ramifications for the relationship between your organizations. We continue to urge you to reach an agreement and avoid a strike.

Thank you for the vital work you do and your commitment to the health and well-being of Oregonians. We appreciate your consideration of our request.

Sincerely,

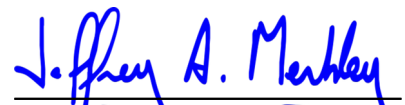

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