



September 15, 2019

Daniel Field
Executive Director of Community Health
Kaiser Permanente
500 NE Multnomah St
Portland, OR 97232

Dear Mr. Field,

As the elected leaders of our respective communities, we are increasingly growing more concerned regarding the current bargaining situation affecting over 4,500 of our very own Oregon Kaiser workers represented by SEIU Local 49. It has been brought to our attention that the current contract expires at the end of this month, and it is disappointing to hear that a fair collective bargaining agreement may not be settled in that allotted time.

We were shocked to learn that Kaiser is proposing to raise health care costs, cut retirement benefits afforded to some of the current workforce for other current and future workers, and flat-out refuse to discuss job security. Our desire is for the state of Oregon to be a leader with regard to safe, affordable, and accessible health care; this will not come to fruition if healthcare providers, such as Kaiser, are proposing cuts to wages, safe staffing, healthcare benefits, and retirement plans for their own low-income healthcare workers. These cuts are unacceptable given the \$5 billion that Kaiser has profited thus far in 2019, not to mention the \$35 billion that the organization has in reserves.

For over 25 years, Kaiser and labor unions have thrived together under a partnership that greatly improved the quality of care that our communities have received. We are committed to working together with Kaiser management and their workers to ensure that this partnership continues and that Kaiser stands resolute by their mission statement to "provide high-quality, affordable health care services and to improve the health of our members and the communities that we serve." The best way to uphold this mission is to start by fairly compensating the workers that have driven Kaiser's success. Workers such as housekeepers who maintain the hygienic integrity of all Kaiser facilities; CNAs who are responsible for the general care of all patients; and Phlebotomists who draw and prepare blood for medical testing, transfusions, or donation; workers who truly represent the heart and backbone of Kaiser.

We understand that there is only one bargaining session left before the contract expires and we are aware that a strike vote has passed by an overwhelming majority of workers. We stand in solidarity with SEIU Local 49 Kaiser workers, and ask that Kaiser abide by their own mission statement by settling a fair and just contract before a strike commences.

Sincerely,

House Speaker Tina Kotek
District 44

Representative Andrea Salinas
District 38

House Majority Leader
Barbara Smith Warner
District 45

Representative Jennifer Williamson
District 36

Representative Diego Hernandez
District 47

Senator Shemia Fagan
District 24

Representative Mark Meek
District 40

Representative Sheri Schouten
District 27

Representative Alissa Keny-Guyer
District 46

Representative Janelle Bynum
District 51

Representative Margaret Doherty
District 35

Representative Jeff Barker
District 28

Senator Elizabeth Steiner Hayward
District 17

Representative Jeff Reardon
District 48

Representative Brian Clem
District 21

Representative Teresa Alonso Leon
District 22

Representative Karin Power
District 41

Representative Anna Williams
District 52

Representative Chris Gorsek
District 49

Representative Julie Fahey
District 14

Representative Susan McLain
District 29

Representative Courtney Neron
District 26

Representative Carla Piluso
District 50

Representative Rachel Prusak
District 37

Senator Michael Dembrow
District 23

Representative Tiffany Mitchell
District 32