

JANELLE S. BYNUM  
STATE REPRESENTATIVE  
DISTRICT 51



**COMMUNITIES**

East Portland  
Damascus  
Gresham  
Boring  
Clackamas  
Happy Valley

**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

April 10, 2021

Dear Mr. Sekerak,

Please find the following vote explanation for HB 3016.

Nurses and essential workers have been the backbone of the community response to the COVID-19 epidemic. No one can thank them enough for their hard work and sacrifices, even before this life-changing event.

The issue of staffing levels at facilities around Oregon, however, is one of marketplace forces. We as a state have not invested enough in growing the number of nurses needed to adequately meet our needs. Nor have we adjusted our reciprocal licensure arrangements to attract nurses from other markets. To me, this is the essence of the issues we face.

Staffing shortages need to be addressed by adding programs at community colleges and growing the number of BIPOC providers, adding incentives to practice in rural areas, and ensuring our workforce in prisons allows for enough time off to rest and be with their families.

Simply, my no vote is a call to action for the state to step up and be more aggressive about marketplace issues.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Janelle Bynum".

Rep. Janelle Bynum