PLEASE VOTE NO ON HB 2016

HB 2016 would make costly and unnecessary changes to the laws governing bargaining between public sector employers and employees. It would greatly expand employee leave rights, would allow an undefined amount of union access during work hours, and would force employers to pay the full cost of the leave time for employees and substitute workers.

Proponents of HB 2016 describe the bill as protection for workers in a post-Janus v. AFSCME world. That is not the case. HB 2016 is an unnecessary, one-size-fits-all mandate that limits the ability of employers and employees to bargain critical workplace needs. The bill expands worker rights at the cost of services to the public.

Existing law requires bargaining on the subjects contained in HB 2016. If ratified, the bill would invalidate hundreds of existing contracts statewide, forcing reopening of bargaining at great expense. The bill would also greatly expand leave rights for employees, leaving employers to pay for these new costs. The bill prioritizes union rights, requiring employers to trespass on the privacy of their employees by providing personal phone numbers, addresses, and email contact information to bargaining units counter to existing public records law, with no exemption for the release of personal information for public safety workers, such as police and correction officers.

The work of the Legislature this session should be focused on revenue reform to correct the chronic underfunding that has plagued Oregon for decades. HB 2016 flies in the face of that work. It will not deliver new services to students or the public. It will not fix our crumbling infrastructure or facilities. It will damage the ability of public employers to bargain effectively, moving already-scarce dollars out of services and forcing students and the public to pay new costs for organizing, bargaining, and increased political activity.

Please VOTE NO on HB 2016.

From the Desk of Representative
Greg Barreto

3/27/19