



California Legislature

April 22, 2022

David Entwistle
President and CEO, Stanford Health Care
300 Pasteur Drive
Suite H3200, MC 5230
Palo Alto, CA 94305

Paul King
President and CEO, Lucile Packard Children's Hospital at Stanford
725 Welch Road
MC 5551
Palo Alto, CA 94304

Dear Mr. Entwistle and Mr. King:

We are writing in solidarity with the nurses at Stanford Health Care and Lucile Packard Children's Hospital at Stanford who, through their union, the Committee for Recognition of Nursing Achievement (CRONA), are in negotiations for a new labor contract with the hospitals. After working through extraordinary conditions over the last few years during a global pandemic, the nurses are rightfully seeking competitive wages and better working conditions.

While we fully understand and appreciate the negotiation process, it seems unconscionable that Stanford and Packard would use something as essential as health care benefits as a means to threaten against their right to strike. As you know, CRONA nurses announced their intent to strike on April 25, 2022, as a means of last resort to seek better working conditions in order to retain nurses and avoid burnout. In response, we understand that both Stanford and Packard have decided to cut off striking nurses' medical benefits on May 1, 2022. You may characterize this as "standard practice" but to us this is a strike-breaking tactic.

Before it is too late, we implore you to return to the bargaining table with CRONA so this may be avoided without the threat of them losing their health care if a strike is inevitable. Cutting off the health care for these frontline health care workers and their families after they have carried us through a pandemic is

not only unnecessary – it is cruel and out of step with the values Stanford and Packard publicly advertise. Having received generous federal funding the last two years, Stanford and Packard health care should not be playing games with nurses' health care benefits.

We urge Stanford and Packard to immediately continue good faith negotiations with CRONA nurses for better wages and working conditions without the threat of stripping them of health care. These nurses and their families should not be without health care benefits while there is an ongoing dispute.

Sincerely,



Assemblymember Ash Kalra
27th Assembly District



State Senator Josh Becker
13th Senate District



Assemblymember Marc Berman
24th Assembly District