

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES

February 11, 2021

To the nursing staff of Maine Medical Center:

First, thank you for your dedication to the people of Maine. As the daughter of a nurse, I know your tireless commitment to your patients is indispensable to Maine Medical Center's ability to provide world-class health care. Your courageous efforts over the course of the COVID-19 pandemic underscore just how critical your skill and experience are to keeping our state healthy.

The pandemic has made it clearer than ever that a safe and sustainable workplace is fundamental to delivering high quality patient care. As frontline providers, you deserve to be able to bargain collectively to determine your workplace conditions.

I strongly support the right of all workers to form a union if they choose. As you make your decision about organizing a union, know that I firmly believe this process must be fair and free of interference. In any form, efforts on the part of management to undermine your decision are unacceptable. Recent reports that out-of-state union busting consultants were offered COVID-19 vaccines before vulnerable Mainers are particularly egregious.

Like so many across the state, I am deeply grateful for your hard work. However, you choose to proceed, know that I stand with you to provide the support you justly deserve.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Chellie R', followed by a long horizontal flourish.

Chellie Pingree
Member of Congress