

## Bill 37 a shocking betrayal of health careworkers

Posted by

Thursday, 29 April 2004 01:34 - Last Updated Thursday, 29 April 2004 01:34

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**Hospital Employees Union:** Legislation introduced today by the Gordon Campbell government that would impose massive wage rollbacks on 43,000 hospital and long-term care staff while allowing for the continued privatization of health services is a shocking betrayal of workers, say health unions.

Back-to-work legislation may be brought in against the HEU strike by Wednesday afternoon! The union is widely expected to defy such a law, but to succeed they will need MASSIVE, IMMEDIATE, AND DURABLE SUPPORT from everyone who values unionism, public health care, and/or fairness.

**From:** [HEU CUPE 6142 - Pacific Rim Local](#)

**To:** [HEU CUPE 6142 Pacific Rim](#)

**Sent:** Wednesday, April 28, 2004 9:20 PM

**Subject:** Fw: [seniorsnetwork-bc] Fw: Massive, Immediate, Durable Support for HEU

Back-to-work legislation may be brought in against the HEU strike by Wednesday afternoon! The union is widely expected to defy such a law, but to succeed they will need MASSIVE, IMMEDIATE, AND DURABLE SUPPORT from everyone who values unionism, public health care, and/or fairness.

If you are one of those people, please

- 1) plan to spend as much time as you can on the HEU lines over the coming week,
- 2) flood call-in radio shows with calls supporting health care workers,
- 3) get friends and family to do both 1) and 2),
- 4) talk to fellow workers about whether they would be willing to launch a sympathy strike if the government starts jailing HEU leaders/members and using other methods to crush the strike.

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Check out [www.generalstrikenews.ca](http://www.generalstrikenews.ca)

From: "HEU List Moderator" <[moderator@lists.heu.org](mailto:moderator@lists.heu.org)>

To: <[heu-update@lists.heu.org](mailto:heu-update@lists.heu.org)>

Sent: Wednesday, April 28, 2004 8:26 PM

Subject: [heu-update] HEU News Release: Bill 37 a shocking betrayal of health care workers

> News Releases

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> April 28, 2004

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> Bill 37 a shocking betrayal of health care workers

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> Go to [http://www.legis.gov.bc.ca/37th5th/1st\\_read/gov37-1.htm](http://www.legis.gov.bc.ca/37th5th/1st_read/gov37-1.htm) to read

> Bill 37.

>

> Go to <http://www.heu.org/2004/nr-04-28-04-betrayal.pdf> for the Printer

> Friendly Version

>

> Legislation introduced today by the Gordon Campbell government that would

> impose massive wage rollbacks on 43,000 hospital and long-term care staff

> while allowing for the continued privatization of health services is a

> shocking betrayal of workers, say health unions.

>

> "The Campbell Liberals continue to demonstrate nothing but disdain for

> the women and men working on health care's front lines," says HEU

> secretary-business manager Chris Allnutt.

>

> "Once again, this premier and his government have callously rewritten the

> law to suit their privatization agenda in health care and violated the

> legal rights of tens of thousands of workers in the process.

>

> "Bill 37 is nothing short of a stinging indictment of this government's

> failure to deal honestly, openly and cooperatively with those who deliver

> health care to British Columbians," adds Allnutt who also speaks for the

> multi-union bargaining association.

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> Since their election in 2001, the government has used legislation to

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> impose agreements o-n doctors, nurses and paramedical professionals and to  
> rip up the last collective agreement negotiated by this group of health  
> care workers.

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> But Bill 37 is the first time the Campbell Liberals have imposed wage and  
> benefit cuts o-n a group of workers through legislation.

>

> "This is a dangerous piece of legislation which puts the rights of all  
> workers at risk and will further deepen the chaos this government has  
> inflicted o-n health care over the last three years," says Allnutt.

>

> HEU represents 40,000 workers affected by the contract talks. Ten other  
> unions in the bargaining association including the B.C. Government and  
> Service Employees' Union and the International Union of Operating  
> Engineers represent the remaining 3,000 workers.

>

> Workers covered by the contract talks include hundreds of job  
> classifications including LPNs and care aides, lab assistants, x-ray and  
> ECG technicians, biomedical engineers, trades, cleaners, dietary workers  
> and clerical staff like medical transcriptionists, OR booking clerks and  
> unit coordinators.

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