

# Speak Out Now at Highland

March 18th, 2026

## Layoffs Delayed to June 30th!

AHS workers have been showing up and speaking out against the cuts to services and layoffs planned throughout our healthcare system. We organized with each other, reached out to the public, and made our voices too loud to be ignored at the Beilenson Hearing with the Alameda County Board of Supervisors.

The Board of Supervisors heard us and are forming a committee with AHS and our unions to identify funding sources to keep our jobs and services intact.

Despite AHS CEO James Jackson asserting that the county can't tell him what to do, the Board of Supervisors made it clear that they are ready to keep AHS funded and that the layoffs need to be delayed until they can work out a continued funding solution.

With that, the AHS executives had no choice but to delay the layoffs. Everyone who has been out on leave will be back to work March 24th. We made this happen! We're thrilled to have our co-workers back on the job and there is certainly plenty of work for them to do!

## The Fight is Not Over!

Although we got the layoffs delayed until June 30th, that is only three short months away and we will not stop fighting until the layoffs are permanently called off. AHS executives can't just keep stringing everyone along, changing layoff dates from December, to March, to June.

Our patients deserve to know if the clinics they depend on will still exist by the time of their appointment. Our co-workers deserve to know if they will still have jobs and benefits for themselves and their families. And for those workers who still have their jobs, we deserve to know just how badly short-staffed the hospital will be, or if we'll actually have workers around to help us keep the hospital running.

We need to keep the pressure on AHS executives to stop giving themselves massive bonuses, to give up their luxury Jack London Square offices, and to accept the county's help to keep funding our public healthcare system.

Join us next weekend to demonstrate!

**NO KINGS**   
**NO BILLIONAIRES**  
**NO WAR & NO BUSINESS AS USUAL!**

**3/28 12PM** **OSCAR GRANT PLAZA**  
**OAKLAND, CA**

 [speakoutsocialists.org](http://speakoutsocialists.org)

## It's Survey Time at Highland

It's that time of year again: the SCORE survey has arrived! Check your email, answer questions about burnout, teamwork, and safety, and maybe get entered into a raffle for some AHS swag.

The good news? This year it's shorter. The bad news? Many of us already know what the outcome will be.

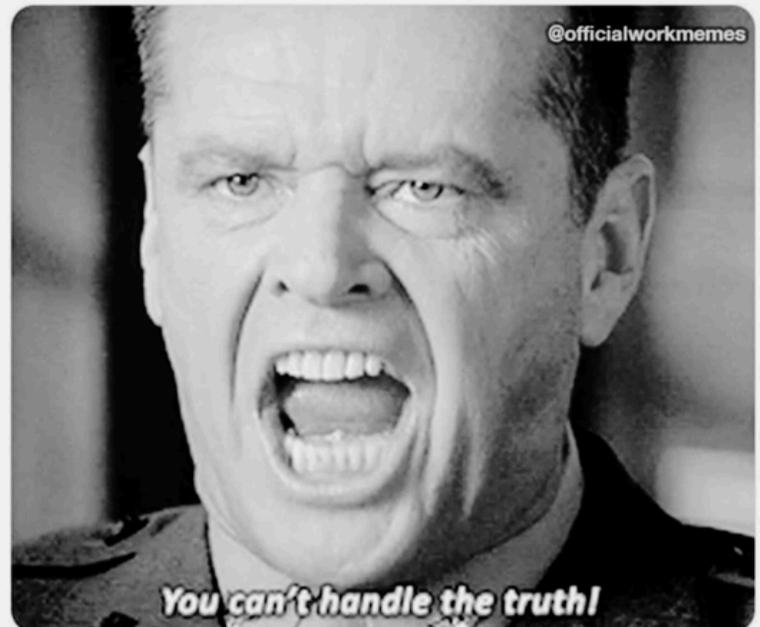
In theory, the survey is meant to help managers understand what workers are experiencing and fix problems. In reality, many of us have seen how this plays out.

Year after year we report the same problems – understaffing, burnout, safety issues. These problems may be presented in a chart or at a meeting... and then nothing changes.

A real culture of safety would mean workers' concerns lead to action. Instead, it often feels like the survey exists mainly so management can check a regulatory box.

Of course, many of us will still fill it out – we care about our patients and our coworkers. And since it's shorter this year, at least it will take less time. Just don't get your hopes up for much more than an entry in the raffle.

When your job asks for 'honest feedback' on any workplace issues



IG: @sonsocialists





# Speak Out Now

March 16, 2026

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## Their Brutal War Shows the Priorities of Their System

This devastating war on the people of Iran by the murderous regimes of the U.S. and Israel has continued for two weeks, hitting over 6,000 locations across Iran, killing over one thousand civilians and displacing an estimated 3.2 million people. They have struck an elementary school for girls, killing at least 170 people, mostly young girls. They have bombed hospitals, power stations, residential buildings, infrastructure and more, devastating entire cities. They have bombed oil depots and refineries, igniting massive fires that sent thick clouds of toxic black smoke over Tehran, a city of 9 million people. As a result, Tehran is being hit with dangerous "black rain" – acidic rain contaminated with toxic chemicals that burn the skin and damage the lungs.

And their killing has not been limited to Iran. Israel has expanded its bombing into Lebanon, killing nearly 700 people in two weeks, about 50 people a day, destroying bridges and whole neighborhoods. Israeli forces have ordered forced evacuations in most of southern Lebanon, displacing over 800,000 people in a small and densely populated city. Israel has bombed families with nowhere to go as they sleep in tents on a beach in central Beirut. Israel claims it is defending itself from Hezbollah, an Islamist political and military organization in Lebanon supported by Iran, but this is a lie. Israel has spent the past three years destroying most of Hezbollah's military capacity since the beginning of the genocide in Gaza. Israel's real aim is to expand its borders, vowing to occupy southern Lebanon indefinitely.

Meanwhile, Trump, Pete Hegseth, and others in the administration brag about their callous destruction of Iran as they waste billions of dollars on this war, on top of the tens of billions the U.S. has already given to fund Israel's genocide of Palestinians. The first six days of this war have already cost over \$11.3 billion. And this war has provoked Iran to block the Strait of Hormuz, where 20% of the world's oil supply passes through, causing oil prices to skyrocket and increasing gasoline and energy costs. As living costs for working people increase, U.S. oil companies stand to make an extra \$60 billion from the increase in oil prices.

While billions of dollars a day go to destroy the innocent people of Iran, the Trump administration is carrying out the largest gutting of social programs in U.S. history, slashing trillions from healthcare, food assistance, education and more to fund \$4.5 trillion in tax breaks for billionaires and to pay for their massive increases in military spending. It's expected that the Trump administration will ask for at least an additional \$50 billion more for this war, and plans to increase the military budget to \$1.5 trillion dollars in 2027.

The Medicaid cuts alone will strip coverage from an estimated 7.2 low-income million people. On top of that, their cuts to health care subsidies from the Affordable Care Act mean that an estimated 4.8 million people that had private insurance will become uninsured. Overall, millions of people face losing access to health coverage. Nationwide, over 700 hospitals, nursing homes, and other facilities face huge service cuts or could shut down altogether from these funding cuts.

The administration is also cutting food assistance, eliminating \$187 billion from SNAP over ten years, the largest cut to the program in its history. An estimated 4 million people, including 1 million children, will have their food assistance slashed or eliminated altogether. Work requirements are being expanded to cut off 2.4 million more people, including older adults, veterans, people experiencing homelessness, and young people. Millions of families who are already struggling to put food on the table will now have even less.

This is the priorities of their system laid bare. They have billions a day for a war to kill innocent people and bomb schools and hospitals, but they have no money for food assistance or healthcare or public transportation or any of the programs that working people rely on.

Working people have nothing to gain from this war. Our enemies are not the people of the Middle East under assault by the U.S. and Israeli military. Our enemies are the politicians and billionaires that work together to defend their system by bombing civilians abroad while gutting the programs that keep people alive at home. We must oppose both the war being waged in our name overseas and the war being waged against us here.