

Fellow Oregonians serving in our house and senate,

A few years ago as a single mother of two I found myself in need of any source of income and via acquaintances I heard of local farm (Juniper Jungle Farm) in Deschutes county that needed help for the season. I was in severe need and the farm only offered food boxes in exchange for work, however because I didn't have my own transportation I was not even given that courtesy and even though I showed up consistently and worked hard I was given left over while the white people got full boxes of produce. Unfortunately HB2358 is needed because farmworkers, particularly latinx farmworkers, get taken advantage of. Throughout Central Oregon latinx farmworkers keep our economy going. Driving by Jefferson county you can see the carrot fields from the highway and the people that work and care for the earth, we have a responsibility to also care for these workers. That is why I ask that you support HB 2358 which guarantees overtime pay for agricultural workers after 40 hours in a workweek at one and one-half times the employee's regular rate of pay. Applies to hourly and piece-rate agricultural workers and uses the same enforcement mechanism as general overtime law.

Thank you,
Joanne Mina
Volunteer Coordinator Latino Community Association