

Submitter: Launa Frahm

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Business and Labor

Measure: HB4002

I am a four generational farmer from the Ontario Oregon area. I am Spencer Frahm and we raise row crop such as corn, wheat, dry beans, and onions. I am concerned about the impact of HB 4002 because we usually employ 12-14 employees.

I do everything I can to be fair, but I can not just pass on the cost of increased overtime to my buyers. I sell to a world-wide market and must compete outside of Oregon. Oregon specialty crops such as onions and berries are labor intensive and have peak harvest seasons.

Our employees need to and like to work 60 hours weeks when we are irrigating and harvesting. They want the added income at these peak times.

Right now, we have employees earning between \$55,000 and \$38,000. They will be reduced in wages to \$40,000 to \$28,000 because we can't afford the extra overtime. It would cost about \$160,000 total annually.

I cannot pay this so I will make changes such as hiring more people at less hours and run 2 shifts. Another change will be to mechanize more.

I would be forced to change to less labor-intensive crop. If this bill passes, Idaho and Nevada will benefit because they will then grow these revenue producing crops and their states will greatly benefit and our employees will move as well. Let's keep Oregon great and its farms!