



Indivisible Clackamas District 5 Oregon

Date: 2/7/21

To: House Committee on Business and Labor

From: Elizabeth Luthy / Indivisible Clackamas CD5

Re: Support for Farmworker Overtime

Chair Holvey, Vice Chairs Bonham and Grayber, and Members of the House Business and Labor Committee,

My name is Elizabeth Luthy, and I live in Portland, OR. I am writing on behalf of **Indivisible Clackamas CD5**

I am writing to you today in support of farmworkers receiving overtime pay after 40 hours in a workweek at one and one-half times the employee's regular rate of pay.

We, at Indivisible Clackamas, believe in all human beings being treated with respect, consideration, and humanity. Oregonians have failed to live up to those values by excluding farmworkers from minimum wage protections, child labor laws, and overtime pay since the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938. If agri-business is complaining about the cost, it is an indication that they have been abusing workers with overtime. Farmworkers need over time pay because overtime impacts their health, the welfare of their children, and they are some of Oregon's lowest paid workers (median income \$28K).

It is too late to change how we have treated farmworkers over the last century, but we can pass farmworker overtime pay NOW. As I ate my salad last summer and sat in front of my AC, I saw pictures of the orange skies and row after row of worker kneeling down to pick food for me. IMHO, this legislation is basic humanity. We can do no less.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Luthy
Leadership Team
Indivisible Clackamas