

I write in opposition to HB 4002.

Agriculture in Oregon is a vital enterprise. It is diverse in its nature, its products, its harvesting techniques, and even the length of its harvest season. Any one-size-fits-all regulation would prove devastating to this industry precisely because of its diversities.

Working on a farm cannot be scheduled in eight-hour days and 40-hour work weeks. Agriculture doesn't work this way because it's not how nature works. Harvest seasons differ in length, with some lasting 5 to 6 weeks, and others several months. Because of agricultures' uniqueness and diversity lifting the exemption that has stood since before WWII would undoubtedly create devastating consequences for local farms and farm workers.

As I understand HB 4002 it is likely to cost seasonal farm workers in that they will make less money less money on account of their hours being restricted by the agriculture overtime bill. This looks like a lose-lose situation for workers, farmers, ranchers, and consumers.

Please stop this bill.

Bruce Ley, Albany Oregon

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