

Date: 2/8/2022

To: House Committee on Business and Labor

From: Chris Rompala, RN, ONA

Re: Support for Farmworker Overtime

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

My name is Chris Rompala, and I am writing on behalf of the Oregon Nurses Association.

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

Farmworkers have been excluded from the Fair Labor Standards Act since the 1930s and it's time they receive their just wage for just work. Every other profession receives overtime pay for overtime work and it is unjust to allow this loophole to continue for agriculture workers. With California and Washington paying farmworkers time and a half for work over 40 hours, we will be hard pressed to keep workers in the state.

I urge you to pass farmworker overtime in the 2022 Legislative Session to ensure farmworkers in Oregon are paid fairly for their skilled and essential labor.

Sincerely,

Chris Rompala

RN

Oregon Nurses Association