

RAQUEL MOORE-GREEN
STATE REPRESENTATIVE, District 19
South Salem, Turner, and Aumsville



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

February 8, 2002

Chair Holvey and members of the House Committee on Business and Labor,

Marion County sits in the heart of Willamette Valley farmland. Our agriculture economy is one of the key components of our local economy. The enormous contributions both farm owners and farm workers make for Oregon are crucial to this economic landscape.

Farmers do not have the luxury of working a 9-5 job; they are at the mercy of growing conditions, harvesting requirements and a multitude of other unpredictable variables that impact day-to-day operations. Per the 2017 Census of Agriculture Marion County has over 2700 farms that sold approximately \$700,000 in market value products. This includes over 96 family farms with a diverse ownership.

The issue of overtime for agricultural workers is complex. The unintended consequences of HB 4002 must be carefully considered so that a balanced opportunity for workers and farmers can be achieved. This issue deserves to be fully vetted – if we don't get this right, we risk destroying a vital part of our economy and food supply. We risk destroying generational businesses. There are other states that found success in coming to the table and finding solutions that allow for farms to continue to be successful while working to ensure that employees can maximize take home wages. The legislature must be at the table to find a cooperative compromise.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "rmg".

Raquel Moore-Green
State Representative, District 19

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