

February 8, 2022

To: House Committee On Business and Labor

From: Cassandra M Locke, Salem, OR

RE: HB 4002

Farmworker Overtime Bill

Representative Salinas, Representative Valderrama, Senator Frederick, Senator Taylor, et. al.

Thank you for allowing me the opportunity to provide you with testimony in support of HB 4002. My name is Cassandra and I am a current resident of Salem, OR. As a student of sociology I feel strongly about the farmworker overtime bill, as it is a human rights issue.

I have lived in the PNW my whole life and have many family members and family friends who are and who know farmworkers. **Farmworkers are the backbone of the American agricultural industry and need to be fairly compensated for overtime work.**

Farmers are an important part of American society but without the farmworkers that they employ we would not have produce in our stores or food to be harvested. Without farmworkers the agricultural industry would come to an indefinite, screeching halt.

The five year time period that is planned in the bill is not adequate and needs to be changed. In the next five years most farmworkers will work overtime and without proper compensation in the present they will not have any of their current issues involving income stability and overtime compensation resolved.

I urge you to acknowledge the importance of farmworkers by passing the HB 4002 bill in the 2022 legislative session.

Sincerely,

Cassandra M Locke
Willamette University Student
Economics Major
Sociology Minor
Salem, OR