

Submitter: Nicole Forbes

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Business and Labor

Measure: HB4002

I support passing farmworker overtime. Oregon's food production and distribution system is anchored by migrant and seasonal agricultural workers, yet these essential workers are excluded from overtime pay. I believe that farmworkers deserve to be treated the same as all other workers. Extending overtime pay for Oregon's farmworkers is necessary to improve their economic security and decrease food insecurity. Farmworkers (and all workers) deserve overtime when they work over 40 hours. Just like any other worker in Oregon would expect to receive. Throughout the pandemic, catastrophic fires and hazardous air quality levels, farmworkers continued to work to support Oregon's multi-billion dollar agricultural industry and keep our food systems afloat. Let me say that again - Throughout the pandemic, catastrophic fires and hazardous air quality levels during growing seasons - if a farmworker worked overtime during these conditions or any other day they arrived at work, did not receive any overtime pay. Oregon is behind other states in providing protections and overtime pay to the essential migrant and seasonal workers that our food system depends on. We need to pass Farmworker Overtime so we can all emerge stronger. Thank you for your consideration.