

Submitter: Samuel Bugarsky

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Business and Labor

Measure: HB4002

This message may be coming in late but I wanted to take this opportunity to comment on behalf of Wilco's 3,000 farmer owners.

The farm overtime exemption benefits farm workers as much as it does farm employers, likely more. From my more than 25 years of experience and as an employer with 1100 employees today, I've realized that many employees prefer to work longer hours. The exemption allows farm employers to honor these requests and especially in this employment market, also offer the option to those who wish to maintain just 40 hours. I'm certain that with the narrow margins in agriculture, farm employers would not be able to offer longer hours at the OT rate so workers would either get less hours or be required to find multiple employers. I've seen this play out in our company over the years.

Thank you for your consideration!

Samuel Bugarsky, CEO
Wilco Farmers Cooperative