

Submitter: Lizabeth Schmidt
On Behalf Of: Schreiners Gardens
Committee: House Committee On Business and Labor
Measure: HB4002

We farm in Marion County. We grow bearded irises and daylily and employ 80 employees during peak harvest season. We are concerned about the impact that HB 4002, the Ag overtime proposal, will have on Oregon agriculture, from small family farms to the farmworkers themselves. As written, HB 4002 would cost our farm over \$300,000 per year. That's a huge expense to bear for a small, family-run business. We hope an equitable solution can be attained by bringing all the stakeholders to the table--farm owners and farmworkers.

Farms need farmworkers and farmworkers need farms. Any proposal that threatens the financial viability of farms threatens the livelihood of farmworkers. Unfortunately, we must all compete against farms and growers in other regions that don't have overtime provisions for farm labor. This proposal would put Oregon farms and nurseries at a competitive disadvantage nationally and in particular pose a threat to the survival of numerous small farms in the state.

We hope a solution can be worked out that will both protect small Oregon farms and give justice to farmworkers. We don't believe HB 4002 as currently written does that.

Ben Schreiner
Schreiner's Gardens

Growing and breeding the finest iris and daylilies for 97 years.
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