

Submitter: Jason Skipton

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Business and Labor

Measure: HB4002

Our most important food system members need your leadership to shine through today. Support the backbone of the Oregon agricultural system- the people who pick, plant, harvest and get food to our families! These are the farmworkers! These are the hands, the faces and the families who are out in all conditions and deserve to be paid for their labor. 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. Throughout the pandemic, catastrophic fires and hazardous air quality levels, farmworkers continued to work to support Oregon's multibillion dollar agricultural industry and keep our food systems afloat. 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 as soon as possible so we can all emerge stronger.