



February 9, 2022

To: Representative Ron Noble & House Business and Labor Committee Members

From: Mark Van Hoef/ Oregon Pride Nurseries

Re: House Bill 4002

I operate a 280-acre nursery in Yamhill County, and employ 75 people. We grow hardy nursery product shipped only to upper Midwest and mountain states. We are very concerned about the impact that overtime paid would create for our nursery & employees.

With the tremendous pressure on increased cost of production (plastic pots increased 3 times in 2021, fertilizer increased by 45%, and hourly rate average labor increased from \$14.00 to over \$17.50 an hour) we can hardly incorporate more increases by raising prices. Current Oregon nurseries are facing heavy backlash from freight increases by 30 – 50%, and our nursery ships 100% of crops out-of-state.

Should house bill 4002 pass it will require our nursery to cut all current hours to be held at 40 hours, thus reducing current paychecks to employees. It may further cause employee lay-offs, and overall reduction in our production levels and therefore reduced profitability. At age 70 it may well result in our closing the business.

Please consider the impact this will cause, and oppose an overtime mandate at 40 hours.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mark Van Hoef". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Mark Van Hoef