



DEMOCRATIC PARTY OF LANE COUNTY

To: Joint Committee on Farmworker Overtime
From: Chris Wig, Chair, Democratic Party of Lane County
Re: Support for HB 4002 – Farmworker Overtime

February 23, 2022

Dear Co-Chairs Taylor and Holvey, and Members of the Committee,

I am writing on behalf of the more than 100,000 Democrats in Lane County to urge you to vote Yes on HB 4002 to provide farmworkers with overtime pay. Farmworkers should receive overtime pay after 40 hours in a workweek at one and one-half times the employee's regular rate of pay.

Democrats in Lane County strongly believe farmworkers deserve dignity, respect and labor rights. For too long they have been denied rights other workers have been afforded.

Overtime pay law was created to discourage employers from overworking employees. Before 1938, employers overworked workers even to the point of death. And yet, farmworkers were still excluded from the minimum wage protections, child labor laws, and overtime pay when the Fair Labor Standards Act was passed in 1938. They have been excluded since that time, and the time to address this historic and contemporary injustice is right now.

Please contact me if you have any questions or require additional information. I look forward to working with you to create a prosperous and equitable Oregon.

Sincerely,

Chris Wig
Chair
Democratic Party of Lane County