

Date: Feb. 23, 2022

To: Joint Committee on Farmworker Overtime

From: Miriam Latzer

Re: Support for HB 4002-Farmworker Overtime

Co-Chairs Taylor and Holvey, and Members of the Joint Committee On Farm Worker Overtime,

My name is Miriam Latzer, and I live in Portland, Oregon. I grow fruits and vegetables on 3.5 acres for a community college. And, I know farming is hard work. However, as a classified employee, at least I receive a fair wage and overtime benefits.

That's why I'm writing to you today in support of farmworker overtime. Farmworkers should receive overtime pay after 40 hours in a workweek at one and one-half times the employee's regular rate of pay.

Farmworkers have been excluded from the minimum wage protections, child labor laws, and overtime pay since the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938. We cannot continue to deny farmers the rights that other workers have been afforded.

I urge you to vote Yes on HB 4002 to pass farmworker overtime in the 2022 Legislative Session to ensure farmworkers in Oregon are paid fairly for their skilled and essential labor.

Sincerely,

Miriam Latzer