

Submitter: Leandra Paasch  
On Behalf Of: Oregon Ag  
Committee: Joint Committee On Farm Worker Overtime  
Measure: HB4002

To whom it may concern,

Please consider the effects this bill will have on the farming community. I'm a fifth generation farmer and I would love to continue the family business, but bills such as this one continue to make it harder to maintain a small family farm. As it is, some of us don't get paid for a full year (or more) after we harvest and we're already struggling.

Please consider the following points:

Any solution that does not include a threshold higher than 40 hours and a seasonal exemption doesn't work.

Farmers are price takers in the global marketplace and cannot afford to pay overtime wages.

Farmworker overtime is a false promise to farm workers –hours will be capped and worker income reduced.

Farmers did not ask for and do not want tax credits. Tax credits are not a durable solution, and are not recession proof. They will be at risk as soon as state revenue declines. Do not give us tax credits to make yourselves feel better about harming farms and farm workers.

Why would the legislature move forward a proposal you know will have devastating outcomes? Republicans have offered solutions that while still painful for farmers, give us a fighting shot at staying in business and maintaining our workforce.

If you do not want to move forward a meaningful compromise, please kill this bill, and let us take our chances at BOLI.

Thank you for your time and consideration. We really appreciate your support in stopping this bill.

A concerned fifth generation farmer  
Hood River, OR