

Submitter: Jody Holmes  
On Behalf Of: Oppose HB 4002  
Committee: Joint Committee On Farm Worker Overtime  
Measure: HB4002

I am a rancher and have employees, some who work year-round and other season after season. They work in agriculture because they love it, and enjoy the flexible hours, the ability to maximize their take home pay, the seasonal work of the industry. They are able to be rewarded with pay that is proportionate to their effort, and enjoy many benefits like flexible hours, getting off early, and taking more seasonal time off without a loss in pay.

Mandating overtime pay will cause me to limit the hours my employees work. I cannot afford to pay overtime, instead family will work more, I will mechanize, or hire more people to accomplish the same amount of work in a shorter time period. My workers will end of working multiple jobs with more hours, just to take home the same pay.

I have workers who come in and work 3-4 weeks straight, then they take 2weeks off. They don't want overtime pay, they would rather have flexible hours and blocks of time off. If they didn't like the work, the pay, and the benefits, they would leave the ag industry to work elsewhere with set hours, but that's not why they are here. Check out what has happened in other states who have passed this, workers are not happier and better off, they are poorer, working more hours.

Thanks,  
Jody