



## **HB 4002A: Oregon Employers Should Pay Their Own Overtime Costs**

Testimony for the Joint Committee on Farm Worker Overtime - Maureen Barnhart - 2.24.2022

Chair and members of the committee:

My name is Maureen Barnhart, and I speak today on behalf of Tax Fairness Oregon, a network of volunteers who advocate for a rational and equitable tax code.

Farm workers are long overdue for receiving the same overtime protections as other laborers. We concur with the need to move now toward just working conditions for farm laborers. We question the need for six years of tax credits to achieve this goal. In no other segment of the Oregon economy have employers been offered subsidies when changes in overtime were legislated for their work forces.

Legislation in neighboring Washington and California not only implements their farmworker overtime more quickly (three and four years respectively), but does so without a tax credit for the employers.

In light of the ongoing racial justice reckoning HB 4002 is legislation that is understandable, but the subsidies are unacceptable.

***We read the bills and follow the money***