

Submitter: John Nichols
On Behalf Of: Farm Worker Ministry NorthWest
Committee: Joint Committee On Farm Worker Overtime
Measure: HB4002

2/24/2022

To: Joint Committee on Farmworker Overtime
From: John Nichols, Salem, OR
Re: Support for HB 4002-Farmworker Overtime

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

I am 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. This is long overdue. I urge you to make this happen--it should take full effect within 3 years, not 5 years!

Farmworkers provide skilled labor and it is ESSENTIAL labor, willingly provided through wildfire smoke, pandemic, and harassment. When farmworkers were excluded from the protections guaranteed for most other workers eight decades ago--is was racism at the root of that injustice. Let's fix this NOW. Thank you for your consideration of this important matter.