

Submitter: Jessica Youngberg

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Joint Committee On Farm Worker Overtime

Measure: HB4002

I am writing in support of overtime pay for farm workers. As a former teacher, day care provider, and summer camp counselor, I understand how essential services would be even more expensive if the workers that provide the services were adequately compensated. That is the wrong question. It is inhumane and unethical to not pay employees for hours worked. If a business cannot afford to pay its workers fairly, for the hours required to do the job, then the business should not exist. If the service the business provides is essential to society, then society should figure out how to subsidize the work financially. Requiring unpaid overtime (even overtime paid at 40 hr rates) is not subsidy. Farm workers make sure all of society is fed and can thrive. It is our duty to make sure they are fed and can thrive as well.