

Submitter: Mike Freese  
On Behalf Of: Food Northwest  
Committee: House Committee On Rules  
Measure: HB3568

Chair Fahey and Vice-Chair Breese-Iverson:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify. Food Northwest represents food companies across the state that generate over \$616 million in state taxes and \$514 million in local taxes. Food and beverage manufacturers make up the second largest manufacturing sector in Oregon with over 35,000 jobs directly in food and beverage making. The jobs, economic activity, and tax dollars provided by the food sector are essential to the well-being and success of Oregon communities in all 36 counties.

Food Northwest members have expressed concerns with the -1 amendment to HB 3568 and is opposed unless amended. The -1 amendment can be applied broadly and unintentionally apply to certain businesses like agriculture and food processing businesses. Our understanding is that the bill was not intended to include ag and food processing. We greatly appreciate Representative Ruiz working with us to narrow the bill by removing NAICS 493130 (Farm Product Warehousing and Storage) and 493120 (Refrigerated Warehousing and Storage) and ensuring the bill no longer covers ag and food processing.

Thank you.

Mike Freese  
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Food Northwest