

Testimony in Favor of Senate Bill 622

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To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing to express my strong support for Senate Bill 622, which is a vital step towards ensuring the sustainability and efficiency of our agricultural sector in Oregon.

As a small family-owned business, I recognize that our farms rely heavily on a dedicated workforce, including H-2A workers, who come to our state with the intention of bettering themselves and their families back home. It is essential to acknowledge that these workers fulfill critical roles in our operations, enabling us to maintain a safe and reliable food supply for our communities. Senate Bill 622 addresses the financial strains faced by employers who depend on this labor force, providing much-needed support to our farms.

The current economic climate poses significant challenges for small family-owned businesses, and any additional financial burdens could jeopardize our ability to survive. Senate Bill 622 seeks to rectify this situation by establishing a more equitable system that allows us to thrive while still supporting our workforce.

This legislation represents an opportunity to address the issue of taxation without representation. Many of the non-Oregon resident workers help sustain our agricultural economy yet do not receive the benefits associated with these contributions. Senate Bill 622 is a necessary fix to support farms and ensure we can continue to feed our communities effectively and reliably.

In conclusion, I wholeheartedly support Senate Bill 622 as a vital measure for the future of our farms and our state's agricultural industry. By passing this bill, we can create a fair and sustainable environment for both employers and workers alike.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Lauren Lucht

Owner, Northwest Transplants