

Submitter: Kat Topaz  
On Behalf Of:  
Committee: House Committee On Labor and Workplace Standards  
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB2548

Chair and Members of the Committee,

My name is Kat Topaz, and I am the co-owner of Topaz Farm on Sauvie Island. I urge you to reject HB 2548, which threatens the survival of family farms like mine across Oregon.

Oregon already has some of the strongest worker protections in the nation. HB 2548 adds unnecessary regulations that increase costs, legal risks, and instability for an industry already struggling with labor shortages, rising expenses, and market pressures. With more than half of Oregon farms operating at a net cash loss and so many closing, this bill will only make it harder for farms to survive.

By shifting workforce decisions to an unelected body and altering at-will employment, HB 2548 exposes farms to costly litigation and removes the flexibility we need to adapt to unpredictable weather, labor challenges, and fluctuating markets.

Farmers need policies that support stability, not more mandates that put our businesses and employees at risk. Please reject HB 2548.

Thank you.

Kat Topaz  
Co-owner, Topaz Farm