

To: House Committee on Labor and Workplace Standards

From: Ashley Reyes

Subject: Support for HB 2548

Dear Chair Grayber, Vice-Chairs Elmer and Muñoz, and Committee Members,

My name is Ashley, and I am the daughter of farmworkers. I have witnessed firsthand the sacrifices my parents have made to provide me with a better life. Growing up, I saw them work long hours in the fields, doing backbreaking labor day after day. They never complained, but I could see the toll it took on their bodies. They gave up their own dreams so that I could have a future.

Despite the hardships they faced, they always told me to focus on my education, to do my best, and to aim higher. They worked in conditions that were harsh and unsafe, yet they never stopped because they knew that their sacrifices were for my future. Watching them struggle, I know that farm workers deserve better. They deserve better wages, better protections, and respect for the hard work they do.

Farmworkers are the backbone of this country, and yet they are treated as if their labor is not valuable. It is all the value. My parents, and so many others, are treated as invisible, but their work feeds the world. They are the ones who sustain us, and they deserve to have their dignity and rights respected.

I am writing in support of HB 2548 because it is time for farmworkers to be treated fairly. It is time for them to have a voice, to have protections, and to be seen as the essential workers they are. Please vote YES on HB 2548.

Thank you,

Ashley Reyes