

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

My name is Maddi Perry and I grew up in an orcharding family (mainly pears and cherries) and I now work at a local fruit packinghouse operating the food safety and employee safety program.

Working in safety and food safety, I can recognize the importance of having certain requirements in place, but with that being said, having unelected bureaucrats make decisions about what is a requirement and what is right and wrong in a field where they may not be aware of what is actually happening, is totally wrong. Trying to create requirements that aren't applicable or feasible is a waste of money for the grower, the state, and the employees. Many farms have already had to reduce worker hours, change crops, or automate to control labor costs associated with overtime; HB 2548 would have more severe consequences. Oregon OSHA has one of the highest worksite inspection rates and has adopted some of the most expansive workplace protections in the country already and farm workers are already provided with paid sick time and paid the minimum wage (many times much above the minimum wage when H2A workers are involved which is frequently as labor shortages persist).

I urge you to vote no on HB 2548 to protect Oregon farms and ranches and the jobs we currently provide. A vote in favor of this bill will put the burden on your shoulders for destroying ag operations and communities in Oregon.