

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

I am adamantly opposed to HB 2548! Oregon agricultural laws are some of the most stringent in the nation. Oregon farms and ranches are a vital industry to the economic base of this state, yet laws are continually created to cripple the industry. We do not need an UNELECTED board to create additional labor laws for agricultural workers. This gives power and control over the industry to an appointed board that may have little to no knowledge of our agricultural industry. It will undermine the employer/employee relationship by prohibiting employers for firing employees without cause. This board would also establish minimum working standards for agricultural workers, including training requirements, wages, staffing, benefits, etc. The farmer/rancher would no longer be making all of these critical decisions for their operation. We do not need more bureaucracy in the agricultural industry, as we already operate on a slim profit margin and this would decrease that margin significantly. I urge you to oppose this bill!