

Submitter: Jane Barmore
On Behalf Of:
Committee: House Committee On Labor and Workplace Standards
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3193

To Whom It May Concern:

My name is Jane Barmore, and while I live in Vancouver, WA, I spend the majority of my time working in Portland, OR in the hospitality industry. My work takes me all over the place in the Pacific Northwest and down the West Coast, and I have spent a lot of time with other hospitality workers, chefs, farmers, and other individuals that work primarily with food or just love and appreciate what food stands for. I am writing in strong support of HB 3193, the Farmworker Disaster Relief Fund because farmworkers are the frontline when it comes to food access. They should be protected just as much as everyone else in this system.

Farmworkers should not have to choose between their health/safety and the ability to feed their families especially in cases of extreme weather which is becoming more and more prevalent. I urge the people in power to use that power to keep this bill alive and to protect farmworkers. Having spent time with lots of farmers over the years, I already understand that it is a difficult and thankless job with all sorts of other barriers being thrown at them all the time. We need to protect those that are doing all they can to protect our soil and growing food for us and our families. They are the backbone to our society, and we should do all we can to protect them.

Kindly,
Jane Barmore