

Submitter: Nikki Guerrero
On Behalf Of: Hot Mama Salsa
Committee: House Committee On Labor and Workplace Standards
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3193

Working with small farms is essential to our business model, the success of our business, and our mission as a small Oregon grown company. We contract directly with small farms to grow specialty peppers. Without these peppers we could not produce many of our products. We believe fully in the power of small business supporting small business and we know that climate disruptions on the farms have rippling effects throughout of food system.

It is important for us to support sustainable and safe jobs for everyone in our industry. Please support this bill and Oregon agriculture

Farmworkers are often the first to experience the impacts of extreme weather conditions. Research has shown that agricultural workers are 35 times more likely to die from heat-related stress than workers in other industries. Extreme heat and drought also are fueling more intense wildfire seasons, and outdoor workers are increasingly having to deal with harmful exposures to wildfire smoke and unhealthy air quality.

HB 3193 will provide temporary financial relief to farmworkers in Oregon who lose work or wages due to extreme weather conditions. HB 3193 will define a "qualifying disaster" in regards to extreme weather as more than just extreme heat and smoke. This includes snow storms, ice storms, heavy raining, flooding, pandemics, etc. Conditions in which our farmworkers have continued working in despite the dangerous impacts to them physically and mentally.

Nikki Maria Guerrero
Hot Mama Salsa