

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

I urge a no vote on HB 2548. Oregon farms cannot afford increased costs in a very competitive market. As a farmer this would actually hurt my employees as I am likely to have to cut positions if my labor costs increase. I cannot pass costs of production of my crops on in a worldwide market. Currently I often have unfilled positions because I cannot sell my products for enough money to offer a wage that anyone is willing to work for. The legislature can create all the mandates they want. Until I make enough money to pay for them it is pointless. When did family farms become enemies of the state in Oregon? We work hard to provide for our families, pay our taxes, and give our employees and their families the opportunity to do the same. This bill will benefit nobody, and will harm just about every business in the agriculture sector in some way. I am insulted that anyone assumes that I do not have my employees best interest in mind.. That being said I'm not made of money and I can't give everyone whatever they want. If the legislature desires to make meaningful changes then they should collaborate with agricultural employers to find solutions that are feasible to implement. Again I urge a no vote on HB 2548. This bill will hurt farm employers and employees alike.