

Submitter: barbara rumer  
On Behalf Of: self  
Committee: House Committee On Climate, Energy, and Environment  
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3512

My name is barbara rumer, I live in\_Bend and I am writing in strong support of HB 2548 to create a Farmworker Standards Board in Oregon.

There are over 72,000 Oregon farmworkers, who put food on our tables and contribute over \$6.4B to our state's economy, yet they experience poor working conditions and earn an average of just \$34,500 annually. Most farmworkers are immigrants from Mexico, Guatemala, and Central America, many of whom speak an Indigenous language.

HB 2548 will give historically excluded workers their first voice in setting industry standards with real enforcement power and accountability. The board will ensure access to fair wages, safe conditions, and protection from retaliation

This is all about environmental justice. So many farmworkers not only have poor wages, but also they have poor health conditions, are exposed to carcinogenic pesticides (there is not enough oversight on farm managers) They need a say in their working conditions.

Others have unions and boards to which they can demand fair working conditions. We need farmworkers. We need to respect them.

barbara rumer Bend, OR