

Submitter: Sharon Burge

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Labor and Workplace
Standards

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB2548

Dear Chair Grayber, Vice-Chairs Elmer and Muñoz, and Members of the Committee,

I support HB 2548 to create a Farmworker Standards Board in Oregon.

For generations, farmworkers have been excluded from key labor protections such as the National Labor Relations Act and the Fair Labor Standards Act. These exclusions have resulted in farmworkers being one of the lowest paid workers in the state and inadequate working conditions.

Creating a Farmworker Standards Board will ensure that farmworkers voices have a say in setting industry standards and correcting historic exclusions. Cities and states across the country have proven that workforce standards boards work.

These boards bring workers together with industry and public representatives to set meaningful standards, with real enforcement power to ensure accountability.

I urge you to pass HB 2548 to create a Farmworker Standards Board to give farmworkers the ability to help set standards for the industry that they make thrive.

Sharon Burge
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