

Submitter: Colinda Lennox
On Behalf Of:
Committee: House Committee On Labor and Workplace Standards
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB2548
House Bill 2548

I feel HB 2548, is both unconstitutional and an overreach of government powers that I feel unfairly targets Oregon's farmers and ranchers.

I believe that HB 2548 raises significant constitutional concerns. My understanding of the bill, its saying it will delegates broad, unchecked authority to an unelected body the Agricultural Workforce Labor Standards Board which may lead to arbitrary and capricious decision making? Wouldn't that undermine the principle of separation of powers and violate the due process protections guaranteed under the 14th Amendment? I feel it lacks the clear legislative guidelines necessary to protect family farms from overly burdensome regulations.

I also feel that the bill may impose excessive financial burdens on small, family-owned farms, potentially resulting in the closure of operations that cannot afford to comply with new standards. I worry this could amount to a "regulatory taking" of property without just compensation, in violation of the 5th Amendment.

I believe it threatens to infringe upon farmers' and workers' rights to freely associate and negotiate terms independently, undermining individual freedoms guaranteed by the First Amendment.

I feel the bill may also disproportionately harm small farms compared to larger operations, raising concerns about unequal protection under the law.

I also wonder and worry this bill risks damaging Oregon's agricultural sector by imposing regulations that could hinder interstate commerce, if so then it would be violating the Commerce Clause and making Oregon products less competitive in the broader market.

Please NO on HB 2548, as I believe it poses a direct threat to the constitutionally protected rights of Oregon's agricultural community and demonstrates government's overreach into the private sector.