

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

I urge you to support HB 2548, which establishes the Agricultural Workforce Standards Board in Oregon.

Farmworkers have been historically excluded from crucial labor protections such as the National Labor Relations Act and the Fair Labor Standards Act. These exclusions have had detrimental effects, resulting in farmworkers being among the lowest-paid workers in the state and facing inadequate working conditions.

By creating a Farmworker Standards Board, we can ensure that farmworkers have a voice in setting industry standards and addressing these historical exclusions.

The effectiveness of workforce standards boards has been proven in cities and states across the country. These boards bring workers, industry representatives, and public representatives together to establish meaningful standards and provide real enforcement power to ensure accountability.

In a time that the federal government doesn't want to lead or regulate or enforce working conditions and labor violations then it's up to Oregon to show workers that we value their labor.

I urge you to pass HB 2548 and create a Farmworker Standards Board, empowering farmworkers to play an active role in shaping the standards of the industry they support.