

Submitter: Maureen O'Neal
On Behalf Of:
Committee: House Committee On Labor and Workplace Standards
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB2548

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

Please vote YES on HB 2548 to create the Farmworker Standards Board.

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.

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.

Sincerely,
Maureen O'Neal
Portland, OR