

Submitter: Dawn Hayami  
On Behalf Of: Sacred Organizing Circle  
Committee: House Committee On Labor and Workplace Standards  
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3193

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

My name is Dawn Hayami, I live in Lake Oswego, and am a member of the Lake Oswego United Church of Christ and the Sacred Organizing Circle. I am writing in strong support of HB 3193, the Farmworker Disaster Relief Fund.

Over the last few years, farmworkers have faced an increase in dangerous exposure to extended triple-digit temperatures, intense wildfires, smoke and unhealthy air quality. I vividly recall the alarm and regret I felt upon hearing about the preventable death of a farmworker in the wake of the 5-day heat dome.

HB 3193 will create a permanent relief program under the Oregon Health Authority to provide temporary financial assistance to our farmworkers who lose work and wages due to extreme weather conditions. I have never had to put myself at risk in order to get the food I need to live. Nor should farmworkers, in order to support their families by cultivating that food.

My grandfather was a nurseryman, and my uncle worked alongside him from a young age. Their days were long, seven days a week. Years of exposure to the LA heat and smog, to fertilizers and chemicals, took a toll on their health. My grandfather died in his early 70s, and my uncle in his late 60s, whereas all other family elders have lived well into their 80s and 90s.

My entire career centered around the analysis of population health data to find ways to preserve and improve the health of communities we served. I know that prevention is the least expensive and most effective approach to preserving health and life. I urge you to vote YES on HB 3193, to provide protections and support for over 70,000 farmworkers in Oregon.

Sincerely, Dawn Hayami