

Submitter: Darlene Boshart

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Labor and Workplace Standards

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB2548

My name is Darlene Boshart. My husband and I own and operate Boshart Customs, which is primarily a seasonal baling company. I am writing in opposition to Oregon House Bill 2548.

The proposed Agricultural Workforce Standards Board brings a lot of uncertainty to business owners; this one-size-fits-all method is not sustainable for many companies like mine, a seasonal outfit. Not to mention the proposed wage changes, rest breaks, and changes to health and safety requirements. By supporting this bill, Oregon will be pushing many family farms into a hard position financially and eventually out of business.

Farmers don't know what the next year will look like- we cannot forecast the weather, the yields for crops, recruitment pool, or potential breakdowns. Farmers need the flexibility to adapt to what the year will bring as they are rarely the same outcome. I urge you to vote NO to HB 2548 so Oregon agriculture can continue to work at-will and not with our fate in the hands of un-elected bodies who do not know the struggles farmers face.

Thank you,  
Darlene Boshart