

March 12, 2025

TO: House Committee on Labor and Workplace Standards FROM: Your name SUBJECT: **Yes on HB 2548**

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

My name is Kim McCarty, I live in Portland and I am writing to express the strong support by the Community Alliance of Tenants of HB 2548 to create a Farmworker Standards Board in Oregon.

There are over 72,000 Oregon farmworkers, who put food on our tables and contribute over \$6.4B to our state's economy. Most of them rent their housing and many experience poor working conditions, poor housing conditions, and earn an average of just \$34,500 annually.

HB 2548 will give historically excluded workers their first voice in setting industry standards with real enforcement power and accountability. The board will ensure access to fair wages, safe conditions, and protection from retaliation.

CAT supports HB 2548 because having a voice in their working standards will contribute to their ability to pay for better housing and improve community health for all.

We urge you to vote in favor of HB 2548 to create better living standards for everyone.

Sincerely.

Kim McCarty

Executive Director Community Alliance of Tenants kmccarty@oregoncat.org