

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

Just days after the Oregon House voted almost unanimously to establish Oregon Farmer and Rancher Day, the legislature is now holding a hearing on legislation to consider enacting what would amount to little more than a socialist style takeover of our state's agriculture industry.

HB 2548 would destroy the relationship between employers and workers in agricultural by transferring labor relations to a new board that smacks of the USSR's People's Commissariat for Labour and would oversee staffing, wages, benefits, and trainings.

Neither can this bill be claimed to be granting rights to workers that they do not already enjoy. HB 2548 duplicates worker protections that already exist in law while adding a bureaucratic system that seems designed to hammer farmers against the anvil of immovable industry forces. This bill strikes at the heart of Oregon's Agriculture community and family-owned farms and will be yet one more step down a path of annihilation for a way of life that has defined Oregon since our inception as a territory in the 19th century.

I urge a no vote on HB 2548.