

Submitter: Mary Beth Kennedy
On Behalf Of:
Committee: House Committee On Labor and Workplace Standards
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB2548

As a fourth-generation family farm, we take immense pride in the land we steward and the people who work alongside us. For decades, we have ensured fair wages, safe working conditions, and a respectful, supportive environment for our employees—because they are not just workers; they are part of our extended farm family.

House Bill 2548 is yet another overreaching regulation that unfairly targets farms like ours, despite our proven track record of fair treatment. This bill assumes that farmers don't care about their workers, when in reality, our survival depends on their well-being. We invest in safety training, provide stable jobs, and adapt to challenges in ways that large corporations and policymakers simply don't understand.

With each new mandate, restriction, and government intervention, small family farms are being pushed to the brink. We are drowning in regulations, while corporate agribusinesses—who can afford to absorb these costs—continue to dominate the industry. How many more small farms have to close before lawmakers realize they are destroying the very people who feed them?

We urge legislators to stop punishing family farms with policies that ignore our reality. HB 2548 will not protect workers—it will destroy the jobs they rely on by forcing farms like ours out of business. We need support, not suffocation.

Thank you