

March 11, 2025

To: Oregon State Legislature

From: Anne-Marie Tribbett, JB Nursery, Inc.

RE: Opposition of HB 2548

Dear Oregon State Senators and Representatives,

My name is Anne-Marie Tribbett and I am a 3<sup>rd</sup> generation farmer based in Silverton, Oregon and I am in strong opposition to HB 2548.

I am not understanding why Oregon agribusiness needs regulations above and beyond what is already in place. If this bill passes it will make it very difficult for us to continue farming and pass the farm down to our children and grandchildren. I believe agriculture is one of the biggest enterprises in the State of Oregon and I cannot understand why anyone would want to jeopardize the state in this way. How and why should an unelected group of people regulate farming? Why do they feel the need to when Oregon already has strong labor and safety laws in place? If this passes and they can reevaluate and add regulations every two years at their whim there is no hope for farming in Oregon anymore. Is this the underlying motive, to get rid of agriculture in Oregon?

To be specific I am urging a no vote for the following reasons:

- This bill won't help workers as it will cause farms to cut labor the same as the new OT requirements did and just makes farming harder which will cause many farms to go out of business.
- It eliminates at-will employment for farms which all other private sector businesses in Oregon have which is grossly unfair and will make it very difficult as we are impacted by so many different uncontrollable such as weather, yields, trade and market conditions, and pests and diseases.
- This bill gives unelected people the power to set wages and safety rules that go beyond the current rules and regulations, on top of Oregon having rules that are already much more stringent than federal rules.
- Oregon already has some of the highest labor costs in the country and because we grow commodities we do not have the ability to raise our prices to recover the increased costs.
- What motivation will this board have to work with farmers or will they even care to work with them?

Please vote no on HB 2548 to protect all Oregon farms and ranches as well as the jobs that we currently provide. We love our employees and treat them very well as without them we wouldn't be here! If you feel workers aren't being taken care of enforce the current rules and regulations. Thank you for taking the time to read this.

Sincerely,  
Anne-Marie Tribbett