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# A STRONG VOICE FOR OREGON'S WORKERS

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TO: Chair Grayber, Vice-chairs Munoz and Elmer and Members of the House  
Committee on Labor and Workplace Standards  
FR: Tan Perkins, OR AFL-CIO  
RE: Support for HB 2541  
Date: 03/19/2025

**Chair Grayber, Vice-Chairs Elmer and Muñoz, and members of the  
committee,**

My name is Tan Perkins with the Oregon AFL-CIO, we represent over 300,000 workers and their families and strive to be a voice for all workers during the legislative process. I am writing today in support of HB 2541.

The Oregon AFL-CIO supports extending essential workplace breastfeeding protections to farmworker mothers because all workers deserve dignity on the job.

Farmworker women play a critical role in Oregon's agricultural industry, yet current law excludes certain seasonal and piece-rate workers from workplace lactation protections, we do not believe any worker should be without the same rights as other workers. These mothers, who often return to work shortly after childbirth because they can not miss a paycheck. HB 2541 would align these workers with many others, and provide them with the protection to express milk in a safe and private environment, this is a truly simple fix.

Breastfeeding has well-documented health benefits for both mother and child. However, without workplace accommodations, many mothers make the difficult decision to stop breastfeeding prematurely, limiting their ability to provide these nutritious benefits to their children. By ensuring all agricultural workers have access to legally protected lactation breaks, HB 2541 supports the well-being of working parents and benefits us all by ensuring that these workers can decide what is best for their children.

We urge this committee to support HB 2541.

Sincerely,  
Tan Perkins, Oregon AFL-CIO