



WOMEN'S FOUNDATION of OREGON

*Invest in Women. Invest in Oregon. Invest in Change.*

Oregon State Legislature  
900 Court St. NE  
Salem, OR 97301

**Subject: Support for House Bill 2541 – Extending Workplace Protections for Agricultural Workers**

Dear Members of the Oregon Legislative Assembly,

On behalf of the Women's Foundation of Oregon, I am writing to express our strong support for House Bill 2541, which seeks to extend the rights of certain agricultural workers to express breast milk in the workplace. This legislation aligns with our commitment to promoting equity and improving the well-being of all women and girls in Oregon.

Our "Count Her In" report, the most comprehensive analysis of Oregon's women and girls to date, identified eight areas of urgent concern, collectively known as the "Eight That Can't Wait." One of these critical issues is the lack of affordable and accessible childcare, which disproportionately affects women, particularly those in low-wage and demanding industries such as agriculture.

HB2541 addresses this concern by ensuring that agricultural workers have the necessary support to express breast milk in the workplace. This support is essential for new mothers who wish to continue breastfeeding upon returning to work, promoting both maternal and infant health.

By passing HB2541, Oregon can take a significant step toward addressing the disparities highlighted in the "Count Her In" report and move closer to a state where all women and girls can thrive.

We urge you to support HB2541 and affirm Oregon's commitment to equity and the health of its residents.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,

Libra Forde  
Executive Director  
Women's Foundation of Oregon