

Submitter: Lisa Perry
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Senate Committee On Labor and Business
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB999

Oregon is in the middle of a full-blown housing crisis—rising home prices, unaffordable rents, and a failing supply-demand equation. The state calling for more costly regulation to farms that are helping to ease the housing burden is pure insanity. If you have read the housing rules for ag employer housing, you would know the list and scope is large and long. Nobody in their own privately owned or rented home, does everything in the housing rule book. Where I live, hundreds of people rely on ag worker housing. MOST of this housing is rent free.

The FARMER, pays for all permits to install- \$40,000 was the cost in 2024 to permit a double wide home on a farm in Hood River county.

This does not include the cost of a new water meter- which in HR county is \$30,000.

This does not include the cost of the home. New single wides are now over \$100,000. New double wides are nearing \$200,000

This does not include the final set up of the home. Price dependent on contractors....who are in short supply.

This does not include property taxes....which the state is looking to increase every year.

This does not include everything else the FARMER is responsible for stocking in the home.

This does not include future repairs from normal wear and tear.

The FARMER will maintain the driveway through the entire year, including free plowing. the going rate in HR is \$75 per driveway.

In most cases, you have one employee who works full time on the farm. Ag labor housing allows many other industries to benefit with others working at schools, in restaurants, in stores in the community, at daycare facilities, at irrigation districts, the list goes on.

With most farmers not receiving any form of rent, the cost of housing, usually one employee is astronomical.

For our state to through more burden on the FARMERS who are helping to house thousands of people across the state makes no sense.

If farms are such a terrible place to live and work, why doesn't OSHA build and maintain worker housing, for FREE. So if employees and the families want to choose to live in a state ran housing unit, they can.

Oregon is running it's self into the ground by getting in the way of hard working people trying to feed the masses and offering benefits to their employees how they see fit and within their means.

Housing remains out of reach for too many Oregonians and yet here you are, adding burdens to people actually offering places to live.