



**TO: House Committee on Rules**  
**FROM: UFCW Local 555**  
**Date: 5/29/2025**

## **YES ON HB 2548 -7**

Dear Chair Bowman, Vice-Chairs Drazan and Pham, and Members of the Committee,

My name is Fiona Yau-Luu, and I am a Political Liaison and a member of United Food and Commercial Workers Local 555. I am writing to you today on behalf of our membership to strongly urge your support for HB 2548 with the -7 amendment.

UFCW 555 represents tens of thousands of workers across the grocery, retail, manufacturing, and healthcare sectors in Oregon. Our members take pride in acting as a strong voice for working people. We are especially proud to stand in solidarity with our siblings from PCUN to advocate for the workers' rights and industry standards that these workers have been unfairly denied for generations.

As many workers have personally testified, farmworkers perform incredibly physically demanding labor, often in extreme conditions, in order to provide a critical service to Oregon— putting food on our tables, and contributing over 6 billion dollars to our state's economy. Despite this, our farmworkers earn an average of just \$34,500 annually, and face unique challenges due to a lack of federal worker protections.

Farmworkers and farmworker advocates brought forward a policy to establish a workforce standards board in Oregon. Unfortunately, it is not moving forward this session. While farmworkers and immigrants face attacks from the federal administration, the Oregon legislature has the opportunity to learn about the challenges farmworkers are facing.

At UFCW 555, where some of our members are a missed paycheck away from eviction— we know how critical it is to have workplace standards that allow workers to defend themselves from abuse from their employers. Too often, our union has had to intervene to protect our members from retaliation, safety issues, wage theft, and countless other violations.

By passing HB 2548 -7, this will help inform the legislature and the general public about the conditions that farmworkers are facing in the workplace. By funding a study through Portland State University, this bill puts the voices of workers at the center of policymaking while also including the perspectives of farmers. This is how we create lasting, effective change through listening, research, and engagement.

As workers in the food manufacturing and grocery sectors, our members rely on the hard work and sacrifice of farmworkers in order to perform our work. It is unconscionable and unacceptable to continue to deny these workers the right to advocate for themselves and their families.

We strongly urge your “aye” vote. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Fiona Yau-Luu

Political Liaison  
UFCW 555



**UNITED FOOD & COMMERCIAL WORKERS LOCAL 555**

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