



Pineros y Campesinos Unidos del Noroeste
Northwest Treeplanters and Farmworkers United

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Senate Committee on Rural Communities and Economic Development
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PCUN Testimony supporting **SB 677**-Creates a narrow exception to requirement that wages due to seasonal farm workers must be paid immediately after works stops

Submitted by PCUN President Ramon Ramirez.

Since our founding in 1985, PCUN has worked to improve the living and working conditions of Oregon farm workers.

Under current law Oregon Revised Status ORS 652.145 requires that wages due to seasonal farm workers must be paid immediately after Work stops.

Over the last 17 years PCUN has supported this law because we were concerned that if a farmworker has to wait and return to get paid the chances of getting paid from some employers deteriorates-additionally any delay in payment prevents the worker and his or her family from getting on the road to the next job.

Most seasonal farmworkers have job lined up way in advance and many times out of state.

Another concern was the potential that workers would have to pay additional rent while waiting for their wages.

SB 677 allows growers who play by the rules a fair chance to get their crop in and pay their employees in a reasonable timeframe while not charging workers any additional rent.

We appreciate this opportunity to share our views and urge a "yes" vote on **SB 677**.