

Dear Chair Shields, Vice-Chair George, Senators Baertschiger, Monnes Anderson and Prozanski, I am a former director of St. Francis Dining Hall and a longtime parishioner of St. Francis of Assisi parish which supports the Dining Hall Ministry. Many of our dining hall guests are elderly or are disabled and unable to work and hang out much of the day with us. Another large group of folks come to our 5:00 p.m. dinner after day work or waiting for it at The Voz work center or independently on corners around Portland's Convention Center. The purpose of the Voz work Center named after The Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. is to protect day workers against the thievery of employers. They are partially successful but the practice is so widespread I am certain that the force of stronger law is needed. A law that would slap a timely lien on a bad boss' shiny new truck is what is needed. If you haven't yet, please take time to listen to some of the stories of the outrageous rip-offs that's happening to struggling workers. There's enough challenges to work one's way out of poverty. We certainly shouldn't allow wage theft to add to worker's burdens. Please require consequences to theft and support SB 573 Thank you, Joe Rastatter [REDACTED] Portland Or. [REDACTED]