



Pineros y Campesinos Unidos del Noroeste
Northwest Treeplanters and Farmworkers United

300 Young St. / Woodburn, Oregon 97071 / (503) 982-0243 / (503) 982-1031 (FAX)
e-mail: farmworkerunion@pcun.org website: www.pcun.org

PCUN Testimony supporting HB 3307 (It provides additional pay for each day when the employer does not give workers required breaks and meal periods).

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Submitted by Javier Lara, PCUN Organizer

MEASURE: HB 3307
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SUBMITTED BY: Javier Lara

PCUN, Oregon's Farmworkers Union strongly supports passage of HB 3307.

Since our founding in 1985, PCUN has advocated for and worked to improve the living and working conditions of farmworkers. Although the union has been active for more than two decades working for the agricultural community, it has recently opened its membership to the community at large.

Conducting intakes regarding labor abuses in various sectors now, unfortunately the lack of breaks and lunch time is a labor violation that I encounter constantly. I'm still impacted by a particular case in which four workers were forced to work under supervision for up to 10-12 hours a day without lunch and rest breaks. One of the workers had to seek medical assistance because of the stomach pain that had from not eating.

PCUN strongly believes that no worker should place their health at risk. Clearly this affects the worker's health and the company's production as well. We, therefore, believe that HB 3307 is a necessary proposition. Workers need an effective way to enforce their right to rest breaks so that employers are more likely to comply with the law. In addition, the least that a worker can get after their damages, as in the case mentioned above, is financial compensation.

We appreciate this opportunity to share our views and urge a YES vote on HB 3307.

Thank you,