



Pineros y Campesinos Unidos del Noroeste
Northwest Treeplanters and Farmerworkers United

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TESTIMONY TO THE HOUSE COMMITTEE AND BUSINESS AND LABOR
IN SUPPORT OF HOUSE BILL 2856.

BY RAMON RAMIREZ, PRESIDENT OF PCUN, OREGON'S FARMWORKER
UNION

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On behalf of the 6500 members of PCUN, I wish to express our full support for House Bill 2856.

Wage theft is a reality in our community. Violation of minimum wage of laws in agriculture is also reality. Over the past several years PCUN has documented hundreds of cases of wage fraud were workers were not paid at all.

Part of the reason workers, even those who work in other industries go to PCUN for assistance, is because we have developed a strong reputation, trust and credibility in the community to assist worker. But our ability to assist is limited because of the lack of resources.

Over the year's we have worked closely with BOLI to educate workers on the right to get paid and will continue to do so.

We believe that House Bill 2856 would give workers tools to expose employer who cheat workers and help to recover wage that are owed. We not only have the legal obligation to correct or improves laws to stop wage theft, we have the moral obligation to stop the injustices of workers and their families.

We urge the committee to pass House Bill 2856.