From: bob@fortvannoyfarms.com

To: <u>SWF Exhibits</u>
Subject: senate bill 828

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I am an owner of a small farm in Grants Pass, OR. Senate bill 828 is an unworkable bill for an agriculture operation. A lot of our work is dependent on the weather, we have to get a job done between storms a lot of the time, which means if there is a chance we can work one day or a part of a day we need our help to be flexible enough that if by morning the weather changes we will or will not work. For my operation this can affect 1- 40 employees on a given day depending on the season. Wages now account for about 40% of my gross income any additional expense is devastating to my net income. The expense of bookkeeping would be an additional expense, now I have a part time bookkeeper the additional time would be too many hours and it would not work as part time any more. I would have to retrain another part time bookkeeper or end up having to outsource it at a much larger expense. While we would all like to work when we want to it is an unrealistic goal, especially in agriculture where we are dependent on the weather. The weather also dictates the planting, harvesting, fertilizing and spraying. Even if rain is not an issue cool or hot days change when work needs to be done so even when we think weather is good it can be an issue. It can be a beautiful morning but a temperature inversion can stop what was good day to spray.

For the reasons of an uncertain work condition SB 828 is an unworkable bill for my farm and would have a very negative effect on my ability to make a profit.

Bob Crouse Fort Vannoy Farms, Inc.