

From: Mark Dickman
To: [SWF Exhibits](#)
Cc: [Sen MonnesAnderson](#); Sen.BillHansell@state.or.us; [Sen Gelser](#); [Sen Knopp](#); [Sen Taylor](#); [Rep Lewis](#); "[Sen Girod](#)"
Subject: SB 779
Date: Monday, March 06, 2017 10:35:59 AM

I'm writing today to ask you to support SB 779. This bill will provide necessary clarity to multi-generational farm and ranch families who are working to implement the Oregon Sick Time law.

I, along with other members of my family, farm east of Mt. Angel. We grow approximately 2,000 acres of vegetables and seed crops in northeast Marion and southern Clackamas counties. In our case, four family members are included in the sick leave employee count. Our total employment, with these family members, moves over and under the threshold.

The original 2015 sick leave law had exemptions for some family members in the employee count to determine threshold level for paid sick leave. Recent interpretations of the law have reversed this exemption. Some small businesses have now become "out of compliance" with this law, through no fault or action of their own.

SB 779 overcomes this problem, clarifying that business owners and family members are not counted as employees under Oregon Sick Time. As a family farmer, I can tell you that SB 779 is necessary to help small businesses effectively implement the sick time law. SB 779 also makes sick leave consistent with Unemployment Insurance and Worker's Comp.

Please vote YES on SB 779. Thank you for your help.

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