



**Pineros y Campesinos Unidos del Noroeste**  
*Northwest Treeplanters and Farmerworkers United*

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**Testimony to the Senate Judiciary Committee on SB 1**

**By Ramon Ramirez, President of PCUN, Oregon's Farmworker Union**

March 9, 2017

Dear Chair Hass, and Members of the Committee,

On behalf of the 6,543 members of PCUN, I wish to express our full support for SB 1, which would establish a credit is designed to preserve and create new housing options for agricultural workers.

PCUN was part of a stakeholder group that worked to develop the proposed tax credit. The final product was a compromise that we all agreed to. **Senate Bill 1.**

We believe farmworkers will benefit from this bill by having safe, decent and affordable housing. We also believe that this bill will be an incentive for improving the living conditions of farmworkers and it send a strong message to those growers providing housing to farmworkers but not currently registered with OR OSHA, to bring their housing in line with the minimum housing standards as required by OR OSHA.

As President of a community-based development corporation, Farmworker Housing Development Corporation, FHDC, this bill also help us build and develop housing for farmworkers, by leveraging existing and new sources of capital to create additional units.

We believe that SB 1 is an important step in the right direction and **strongly recommend its passage.**