

Honorable Jeff Barker,

Please vote no on HB 3031, the mandatory Family & Medical Leave Bill for small business and farmers.

This bill is costly to small businesses and especially farmers who already have to pay for other employee benefits required by the state not to mention one of the highest minimum wages in the nation.

This bill also burdens farmers who rely upon quality and skill labor to do the job of agriculture. If an employee is required to leave for family or medical needs and the farmer must hold open his job who will take his place? It is already hard to find qualified farm employee.

With all the different bills being introduced this session against farmers and agriculture it makes one wonder if Oregon will continue to lead the country in Agriculture, the farmer will not be able to make any money to compete or keep his farm.

Small business, including farmers need to be trusted to do the right thing for their employees without having the government mandate everything. We already have to many state run agencies.

Thank you,
Ed and Elisa Heilman
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