

Comments on HB 3031 for March 25<sup>th</sup> Hearing

We are a family farm/ranch in Klamath County. We hire 1 full-time person year around with another part-time helper in the summer season.

(1) This bill will be devastating for any small business owner who only hires one person. If that person is gone for up to 32 weeks and you are fortunate enough to find a competent and available replacement person (hopefully not during harvest season!), then this new person will lose their job when the medical-leave person returns.

(2) Mandating up to 32 weeks of PAID and PROTECTED family and medical leave is just not workable for small businesses.

(3) There is also the issue of additional costs for the business since they will be required to help pay for it.

(4) What about the Workman's Compensation Program that we already pay into?

(5) Oregonians need to make a decision. Do they want to encourage a strong and viable rural Oregon or do they want to rid the state of successful small farms and businesses? This will be determined by legislation such as this.

(6) We urge a "NO" vote on HB 3031.

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