

Chair Prozanski and committee members thank you for the opportunity to testify today, I'm sorry that Teams was not cooperating with us! There are many facets to this issue including water and other finite resources, pollution, unfair competition, human rights abuses, but I wish to speak specifically about impacts to labor.

Oregon vineyards and indeed many other agricultural industries in our state are currently facing challenges finding enough workers to support our operations, particularly during peak harvest seasons. Unfair and illegal labor practices are compounding that issue by paying workers in cash, often at significantly higher wages than farmers adhering to labor laws would be able to afford. Additionally there have been reports of intimidation directed at legal farms (grapes, berries, produce) in proximity to illegal operations and inhumane conditions for workers who have been drawn into some of these operations. Southern Oregon is a critical region to our wine industry and the threat emerging there will only continue to spread throughout the state if left unchecked.

Oregon farmers thank you for taking action on this existential threat to our environment, communities and businesses.

Sincerely,

Justin

Justin King

National Sales Manager

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