

My name is Lou Davies and I ranch & farm near Princeton, OR in Harney County. I am writing to oppose HB2358 and SB616 that would require agricultural employees to pay overtime to employees after 40 hours weekly. Currently ag is exempt from this rule. This will be a hardship maybe even a deal breaker for many operations. We are a business that survives on very thin profit margins if there even is one. Some weeks we do work many long hours but when things are not as intense the employees may be given time off for various reasons. It has worked for many years between employers and employees without a government involvement. Agriculture is a very not only important but a necessary business for Oregon and our residents. We need to keep it viable for the owners and workers. Please vote to oppose this bill that will harm both agricultural employers but also the employees.