

Hello Chair Holvey, Vice-Chairs Bonham and Grayber, and Members of the House Business and Labor Committee,

My name is Andrew Rogers, and I am a resident of Portland who grew up in the Medford area. I am writing to urge you to vote yes on HB 2358.

Farmworkers are vital frontline workers. It can not be overstated the debt every person owes to these workers who ensure Oregonians have access to food, and that our farms have the labor needed to conduct the business of feeding Oregon. That's why it would be unconscionable for this state to continue excluding these workers from overtime pay, a practice of exclusion which is clearly rooted in white-supremacist racism and economic exploitation.

I find it hard to believe that Oregon's agricultural industry is incapable of finding a sustainable model to continue feeding the people of this state while also paying the essential workers in the industry the compensation they have earned. It is time for Oregon to join neighboring states such as California and Washington, as well as a handful of other states, in ending the very damaging practice of exploiting and harming the hardworking people who work on farms.

Pease vote yes on HB 2358, and thank you for your consideration.

Best

Andrew Rogers