

Chair Holvey Members of the House Business and Labor Committee.

My name is Peter Kenagy, I operate Kenagy Family Farm Inc, a mid sized diversified crop and livestock farm in Benton co. HB 2358 will have a significant detrimental impact on our farm and will be particularly detrimental to our only full time, long term, dedicated employee. We pay and treat our employees well, have set up and make contributions annually to their retirement accounts. We provide medical insurance to our fulltime employees. Our long term employee typically works 9-10 hours a day 5days a week by his own volition, it can be really hard to get him to cut off at 8 hours. He likes to keep busy. There is no way I can justify or afford to pay him 30+ dollars a hour. And will be left with no choice but to force him to quit when he hits 40hrs. Farming has never been a 40 hour a week job. I have likely put in 60-70 hours a week for the last 38 years to make our farm successful and sustainable over the long term. Farmers do not get 1.5X the per lb price for the products we produce from the hours we work over 40. I urge to to reject HB2358. If you really want to do something to help farm workers the best thing you could do would be to provide a single payer health care system that would cover all residents of the state regardless of employment.

Peter Kenagy
Kenagy Family Farm Inc
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