



**Teresa Alonso Leon**  
State Representative

March 9, 2021

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

My name is Teresa Alonso Leon and I am the Representative for House District 22 which incorporates Woodburn through the north part of Salem. I am writing in support of HB 2358, farmworker overtime.

Agricultural work is one of the most physically demanding, grueling, and exhausting jobs. As the daughter of migrant farmworkers, I know first hand how hard and tirelessly these essential employees work. Farmworkers are not second-class workers. They are frontline workers who continue to show up despite facing a respiratory pandemic, wildfires, and more recently, a winter storm. Agricultural workers deserve to be paid fairly for their labor.

HB 2358 guarantees overtime pay to agricultural workers after 40 hours in a workweek at one and one-half times the employee's regular rate of pay. Oregon would join five other states (California, Washington, New York, Minnesota, Hawaii) with some sort of overtime pay for agricultural workers. Additionally, this bill extends overtime benefits to farmworkers which have been available to the majority of other workers since the Federal Labor Standards Act of 1938.

This bill will create economic stability for a class of workers who have been excluded from basic labor standards such as minimum wage, collective bargaining rights, and overtime pay.

I urge you to vote yes on HB 2358 to ensure farmworkers in Oregon are adequately paid for their labor. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Teresa Alonso Leon  
State Representative, HD 22  
Chair, House Education Committee