



3/25/21

Dear Chair and members of the committee,

My name is Rae Blackbird. I am a student at McDaniel High School in Portland, Oregon and an Our Climate Fellow. I am writing to request your support for HB2358.

The crisis of worker exploitation is prevalent in every field, but especially in agriculture, where overwork contributes to health issues and exposure to the elements. This bill addresses the right to worker health and safety that Oregon's Immigrant population is disproportionately denied. As cited by the American Immigration Council, more than 40% of Oregon's farmers, fishers and foresters are immigrants.

Going by the wording of HB2358, this should be an obvious provision- that employees must be compensated for time worked over 40 hours of the average workweek. To add this bill into law would show that Oregon prioritizes the people that are the foundation of our state. That, in a time when the right to human health has become more important than ever, we show up for it.

Thank you for the consideration and for your service.

Rae Blackbird

Portland Oregon.

