

March 29, 2021

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

I am writing on behalf of the Oregon Farm to School and School Garden Network in support of HB 2358, which would guarantee overtime pay to agricultural workers after 40 hours in a workweek at one and one-half times the employee's regular rate of pay.

The Oregon Farm to school and School Garden Network recognizes the important role that farmworkers play in our food system. We are working toward a future where the people who work the land are valued and cared for.

Our understanding is that PCUN's members, who are farmworkers, requested this policy change. Opponents have claimed this policy will not be good for farmworkers. We need to trust that farmworkers know what is best for themselves. This policy recognizes farmworkers as essential workers, deserving of overtime pay.

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

Sincerely,

Megan Kemple, Director
Oregon Farm to School and School Garden Network