

February 3rd, 2022

To: House Committee on Business and Labor

From: Savina Monet, Executive Director of Cannabis Workers Coalition

Re: Support for Farmworker Overtime

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

My name is Savina Monet and I am a 6-year resident of Portland and I am submitting a personal testimony as well as a testimony on behalf of the nonprofit Cannabis Workers Coalition, a worker center that advocates for fair and equitable labor rights in cannabis and hemp.

I am writing to you today in support of farmworker overtime. Farmworkers should receive overtime pay after 40 hours in a workweek at one and one-half times the employee's regular rate of pay.

Farmworkers are the backbone of our community and unfortunately many farmworkers are not given the respect they deserve for their labor. Despite the necessity of this workforce, farmworkers have been excluded from the minimum wage protections, child labor laws, and overtime pay since the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938.

Farmworkers are some of the lowest paid workers in Oregon with a median income of \$28,000 a year. Farmworkers who put food on our table should be able to put food on their own table and make enough money to do so. Our organization believes farmworkers are not second-class workers and deserve the same rights as the rest of workers. We hope that the House Committee feels the same.

I urge you to pass farmworker overtime in the 2022 Legislative Session to ensure farmworkers in Oregon are paid fairly for their skilled and essential labor.

Sincerely,

Savina Monet

Executive Director

Cannabis Workers Coalition