

Date: 02/07/2022

To: House Committee on Business and Labor

From: Daniel, OR Farm Worker

Re: Support for Farmworker Overtime

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

My name is Daniel, and I live in Boardman Oregon. I have worked as a farmworker in the state of Oregon for the past 10 years. 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 should be able to spend more time with their families or tend to other responsibilities, instead of spending most of their life at work. In the first place, time spent with family, is the greatest sacrifice because one is always working. One arrives home very tired, only to rest and recover so that we can repeat with work the next day.

Health is another sacrifice us farmworkers make because we are forced to ignore our bodies' needs due to the demand of the work. Our break is very short, so we push our bodies beyond their limit to get as much as we can done. Over time, the body deteriorates due to all this we put our bodies through. All because of necessity of work. Extending overtime pay protections to farmworkers will create better health conditions and a longer life for farmworkers.

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,

Daniel
Farmworker
Boardman, OR