

Submitter: August Meyer

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Business and Labor

Measure: HB4002

Honorable House and Labor Committee Members:

Regards: HB 4002

Dairy Farming is not a 9 to 5 operation at all, in fact dairy farming is an 24/7 operation with husbandry ethics.

Exceptions to generally scheduled hours to name a few are:

1. Power outages affects: barn lighting, auto-milkers machines present, manual electric milkers, gutter flushing systems, feed dispensers,
2. Unscheduled in-climate weathers, and scheduled specialist workers during non-field work times.
3. On the job equipment break downs: tractors, mowers, green chop machines, tire mishaps, manure spreaders, CAFO liquid manure extraction systems and land distribution equipment above normal maintenance.
4. Scheduled worker emergencies and worker no-shows. Possibly COVID-19 and other epidemic impacts with a limited worker availability listing..
5. On the job accidents affecting mandatory operations.
6. Unusual events such as farm flooding.
7. Farm animal birthing problems.
8. Late special product deliveries, including feeds.
9. Unscheduled fencing repairs due to elk, fishermen, cattle pressure, and other reasons; with timely dairy animal search, rescue, and return..
10. Untimely water availability shortages.
11. Storm damages impacting a myriad of daily operations.
12. Small levee breaches and erosions.

In support of normalized dairy farming I oppose HB 4002 without such exceptions wherein farmer and farm worker can make agreeable compensation agreements less a formalized overtime system which could and will lead to numerous lawsuits; all of which affecting "food to the table" operations.

Thanks for this opportunity to participate.

August "Gus" Meyer,
Farm Bureau Associate,
TCSWCD Associate Director

