

Submitter: Keith Baltzor

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Business and Labor

Measure: HB4002

This is definitely the wrong time to even consider such a bill. Small farmers and ranchers, for a multitude of reasons, are currently having a hard time keeping our heads above water financially. Small profit margins are nothing new for those of us in agriculture. With that said, the current negative conditions we face due to very large increases in all input costs due to the supply chain crisis and governmental policy are financially overwhelming beyond anything we have experienced. Equipment, fertilizer, parts, baler twine, etc. etc. and especially FUEL have risen to a place I could not have imagined one year ago. Unfortunately the increases are not moderating. Adding the extra burden of overtime pay is another layer of expense that may be the final straw that breaks the proverbial Camels back.

I think it makes substantially more sense for Industry and labor to negotiate an agreement rather than government to mandate something that will not work, and does more harm than good. Let the folks on both sides that have a dog in the fight try to figure this out by coming to the table in good faith. Thank you for considering my testimony. Keith Baltzor