

Submitter: Kristen Sartor

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Business and Labor

Measure: HB4002

2/8/2022

To: House Committee on Business and Labor

From: Kristen Sartor

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

My name is Kristen and I live in North Portland. I am writing today because as a human being I cannot imagine working over 40 hours a week and not receiving adequate pay. When someone works over 40 hours in a work week, they should receive overtime pay. This is especially true for people who are paid such inadequate wages in the first place, like farmworkers.

I would like you to support farmworker overtime. To be honest, this is common sense. Farmworkers should receive overtime pay after 40 hours in a workweek at one and one-half times the employee's regular rate of pay.

For way too long, farmworkers have been denied rights that many other workers have been granted. Farmworkers are entitled to the same dignity, respect and labor rights as the rest of us. They literally are feeding us. This is crucial to our survival. They deserve the same humane treatment that you would want. Being paid overtime pay when working over 40 hours in a week is part of humane, fair treatment.

Farmworkers deserve a living wage to pay for their living expenses. They often have families to support, just like you do. Even though we depend on farmworkers to put food on our tables, we barely pay them enough to put food on their own tables. Part of paying someone fairly is paying them overtime when they work over 40 hours in a week.

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. They are essential workers.

Sincerely,
Kristen Sartor