



Date: February 2, 2022
To: House Committee on Business and Labor
From: Jasia Mosley, Oregon AFSCME Council 75
Re: Support for Farmworker Overtime, HB 4002

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

My name is Jasia Mosley, and I am writing on behalf of Oregon AFSCME Council 75. Oregon AFSCME represents roughly 27,000 workers across the state from corrections officers to nurses to county employees. Oregon AFSCME members recognize the importance of equity in the workplace for *all* employees and the urgency needed to protect our essential workers, including farmworkers. Our members know that farmworkers are made up of a majority of people of color and that the lack of protections in place are preventing them from equal rights in the workplace. We recognize that this is a racial justice issue as well.

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.

Oregon AFSCME Council 75 strongly supports dismantling inequities in our current systems and creating a more just and equitable Oregon. Farmworkers have gone too long being overlooked and denied rights that other workers across the state have been afforded. It is crucial that we protect farmworkers the same way we protect all workers, including minimum wage protections, child labor laws and overtime pay. Additionally, farmworkers deserve to have better health conditions and live longer lives, which will be achieved by passing this bill. Lastly, farmworkers deserve to make a livable wage for the hard work they do. We can't afford not to pay farmworkers in Oregon overtime. Washington and California already have farmworker overtime laws on the books. If we don't pay our skilled farmworkers what they deserve, they will take

their abilities to where they are better compensated, leaving Oregon farms behind.

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,

Jasia Mosley
Political Organizer
Oregon AFSCME Council 75