



Testimony in Support of SB 1513
February 8, 2022

Chair Taylor, Vice-Chair Knopp, and members of the committee,

My name is Michael Ciccarello, and I am writing to express Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon's support for SB 1513, which would provide essential and long-overdue protections from mandatory overtime for workers in Oregon. We stand with these essential workers in affirming their need for a transparent and fair work environment.

Working with over 150 congregations, organizations, and interfaith partners, Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon (EMO) strives to envision communities of faith in partnership creating a more peaceful, just, and compassionate world. Our membership is a collection of thousands of diverse members of the faith community across Oregon. EMO works with and for Oregonians through dialogue, advocacy, and direct service, serving hundreds of thousands of clients each year.

Employees at Oregon's food manufacturing facilities are crucial to keeping our food system functioning, yet they too often fall victim to a system that punishes them for saying no to last-minute overtime shifts. SB 1513 is common-sense legislation that would allow workers to refuse last-minute overtime without penalty, while still providing employers the flexibility they need to cover staffing shortages. Expanding the mandatory overtime notice is a crucial first step to affirming the dignity and right to fair treatment of food manufacturing employees.

As people of faith and dedicated advocates for working-class Oregonians, EMO urges the passage of SB 1513. We are called to stand alongside these workers and support their pursuit of a more just and equitable workplace. We thank you for your work and your consideration of this essential legislation.

In partnership,

Michael Ciccarello
Public Policy Associate
Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon

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