

February 23, 2022

Co-Chairs Taylor and Holvey, and Members of the Joint Committee on Farm Worker Overtime:

Support for House Bill 4002A

From the time I was 10 years old and until I could get babysitting jobs, every summer was the litany of crop rotations that provided me with money for clothing and spending for extras. The summer started with picking strawberries, moving onto raspberries and whatever crop was next.

My family lived a middle-class life in Milwaukie, Oregon. I went to the fields with my friends from school and the neighborhood. I know how very hard this work is. Every time I thought of quitting my education, memories of picking berries in the rain and hot sun were good motivators.

Anyone who has done this work knows its difficulty. We, as consumers, owe farm laborers fair wages. Making the corrections addressed in this bill are long overdue.

Therefore, I strongly support HB 4002A.

My best regards,
Kathleen M. Raetz
Portland, Oregon