

Submitter: Edgar Brandt

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Joint Committee On Farm Worker Overtime

Measure: HB4002

As a Willamette Valley resident and Northwest farmworker ally, I urge you to support HB 4002 for farmworker overtime pay. Farmworkers are essential to the Oregon economy and deserve overtime wages like others in the Oregon labor force.

A wage increase will free up farmworkers to take a more active role in their children's education. Increasing family wages will translate to more time for parents to oversee their students doing homework, attend parent-teacher conferences, and be more involved in their community and schools.

Also, overtime wages will empower farmworkers to spend more dollars on their household medical and dental health and overall well-being. Many Oregon farmworkers don't have medical, dental, vision and hearing insurance. A wage increase will help them with preventative care, regular checkups and fewer costly emergency expenses in the long run.

Thanks for considering this vital legislation for some of our state's essential workers.

Sincerely,

Rev. Edgar Brandt, Member
Board of Directors
Farm Worker Ministry Northwest