

Submitter: Stacey Cooper

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Joint Committee On Farm Worker Overtime

Measure: HB4002

To Committee Members,

I writing I opposed to HB4002 as it currently written. I realize that we need to get a compromise in this issue, but it needs to be one that both sides can work on together. We need to protect our full time Oregon employees with a harvest exemption. As an employer we recongize the extra work harvest cause so we give a pay increase during that time. Unfortanently the bill that is before us will cut our full time employees hours to deal with the extra cost of overtime during the harvest time. I hear the advocates say that our claims of fewer farms and fewer jobs will not happen. There will be more farm jobs due to the fact that each employee will have less hours. More farms are on the books due to the fact that Oregon gives property tax breaks to farm property. So small non productive "farm" land has been registered, as productive farm are forced out they will be sold out to people that will use this exemption without providing jobs. Please take this back to be reworked that would be more manageable, tax credits are not the solution. I am writing this because I waited to testify in person but time ran out, listen to some of the same people that testified in the last session.