

Submitter: Rachel Sherrell  
On Behalf Of:  
Committee: House Committee On Labor and Workplace Standards  
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB2548

Hello

My name is Rachel Sherrell I work in the tree fruit industry in a packing house and grew up working in it in Hood River Oregon. My parents and siblings are farmers and I care strongly about their livelihoods, as well as my community. I have seen the recent increase in government involvement in agriculture from the outside and while some of their intentions are good and meant well, usually the regulation and the enforcement and the overall outcome has been negative, or has been superfluous.

An additional governing board is one of those things that is superfluous. We have many regulations and regulators already in place to ensure the workplace is safe and a good place to work. We do not need more tax payer dollars to be spent on ridiculous and unnecessary bureaucrats sitting around making up new rules for farms to follow and they've probably never farmed in their lives.

The intention of the bill may seem good, but the practical outcomes will so negatively affect our farms and businesses that I have to wonder, what the goal actually is here? There's no reason to remove "at will employment."

I'm concerned about the future of my community. Hood River is home to many family farms and very few big business farms. And I want to keep it that way. The more you regulate, the more you push family farms out of our community, period. They can't keep up with the imposing and wishful thinking standards that tend to be made up by our legislators. They are also standards that are usually superfluous or there is another piece of regulation already governing it.

I would vote no on this bill. I hope you do too.

Thanks