

TO: House Committee on Labor and Workplace Standards  
FROM: Betzy Reyes  
SUBJECT: Yes on HB 2548

Dear Chair Grayber, Vice-Chairs Elmer and Muñoz, and Committee Members,

My name is Betzy, and I am the daughter of farmworkers. I'm writing to share my story. Although the bill is dominated by economic impacts, I hope that you will consider the struggles of families like mine when you make your decision on HB 2548.

Growing up, I watched my parents work harder than anyone I know. They spent their days in the fields, picking crops and doing backbreaking labor, all to make sure my siblings and I had food on the table. Even though they always did their best to protect us from their struggles, I could see the exhaustion in their eyes. They worked long hours, sometimes from sunup to sundown, enduring heat, cold, and unsafe conditions, just to make sure we were okay.

They sacrifice their bodies and their health to provide for us, but their work is rarely acknowledged. I see my parents struggle to make ends meet with wages that don't reflect how hard they work. Despite everything, they keep going because they believe there is no other option. Their opportunities are limited in this country. Despite it all, they know they are part of something bigger, feeding families across the country, which they are proud of. However, they deserve to be treated like human beings, not just labor machines.

HB 2548 is a chance to change all of that. My parents, and all farmworkers, deserve protections that will help them live healthier, safer lives. This bill is critical in ensuring fair wages, access to healthcare, and the ability to speak up for better conditions without fear of retaliation. This isn't just a matter of policy, it's about fairness. It's about giving farmworkers, who do the hardest and most essential work, the recognition and support they deserve.

Please vote YES on HB 2548. It will make a difference in the lives of so many hardworking families like mine. Please, listen to our voices.

Sincerely,  
Betzy Reyes