

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

My name is Cody Fazio, and I grow Potatoes, Corn, Grass Seed, Hazelnuts, and we run Cattle also. I operate a farm that has been part of the Oregon agricultural community for 115 years. I am writing to strongly urge you to oppose HB 2548. This bill is deeply concerning for farm employers like myself and could have devastating consequences for the agricultural industry.

Oregon already has some of the highest labor costs in the country. As growers, we generally don't have control over the prices we receive for our commodities, so there is no way for us to recover the increased costs passed on by this new governing Board.

Farm workers in Oregon are already protected by some of the strongest workplace regulations in the country. We comply with paid sick leave, minimum wage laws, and stringent workplace safety standards. Oregon OSHA is among the most active in terms of inspections, and the state has adopted some of the most expansive worker protections in the country. So, what real issue is HB 2548 trying to solve?

HB 2548 would give unelected bureaucrats the power to set wages and safety rules that go far beyond current protections. This adds unnecessary regulatory and cost burdens on local farms. These decisions could close farms or lead to layoffs without any accountability from the decision-makers.

This bill doesn't benefit workers or consumers—it only makes farming harder and more expensive. Many farms are already facing the challenge of controlling labor costs through reduced worker hours, changing crops, or investing in automation. HB 2548 would make this situation far worse.

I urge you to vote no on HB 2548. Our farms, ranches, and the jobs we provide depend on your support to remain viable.

Please stand with Oregon's agricultural community.

Sincerely,

Cody Fazio