

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

As a sixth-generation Oregon farmer, I am writing to strongly oppose House Bill 2548. Farming in Oregon is already a challenge due to some of the strictest labor laws in the country, rising costs, and increasing regulations that make it harder for family farms to survive. This bill would only add to the burdens we face, threatening the future of local agriculture and the livelihoods of those who depend on it.

Family farms like mine operate on tight margins and rely on hard work, dedication, and community support to stay afloat. Our employees are not just workers—they are family, and we do everything we can to support them. But with constant new regulations and increasing labor costs, it is becoming nearly impossible to continue doing what generations before us have built. We take pride in producing U.S.-grown, Oregon-made products, and we need a government that supports agriculture, not one that makes it harder to exist.

Oregon farmers are already struggling under policies like:

Strict overtime rules that fail to account for the seasonal nature of farm work.
Regulatory overreach that makes daily operations more costly and complicated.
High tax burdens that put small farms at a disadvantage against corporate competitors.

House Bill 2548 would be yet another blow to family farms, forcing more producers out of business and pushing food production away from Oregon and into foreign markets. Is that the future we want for our state?

I urge you to stand with Oregon farmers and vote NO on HB 2548. We need policies that strengthen agriculture, protect family farms, and ensure that future generations can continue producing food right here in Oregon. Please prioritize common sense solutions that keep Oregon agriculture thriving.

Sincerely,

Laney Brentano
Brentano Farms, Inc.