

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

As a fifth-generation Oregon farmer, I have spent my entire life working the land, just as my father and grandfather did before me. I am writing to strongly oppose House Bill 2548, which would place yet another burden on family farms like ours. Farming in Oregon has always been tough, but with ever-tightening regulations, rising costs, and some of the strictest labor laws in the country, it is becoming nearly impossible to pass this way of life on to the next generation.

Family farms do not operate like big corporations. We work long hours, make sacrifices, and stretch every dollar to keep our operations going. When lawmakers continue to pass policies that ignore the realities of agriculture, they push family farms further toward the brink.

Oregon farmers are already struggling under policies like:

- Strict overtime laws that fail to recognize the seasonal nature of farm work.
- Regulatory overreach that increases costs and makes everyday operations more complicated.
- High tax burdens that favor large corporations while putting small farms at a disadvantage.

HB 2548 would be yet another blow, forcing more family farms out of business and shifting food production out of Oregon and into foreign markets. Is that really what we want for the future of our state?

I urge you to stand with Oregon farmers and vote NO on HB 2548. We need policies that support agriculture, protect family farms, and ensure that future generations can continue growing food right here in Oregon. Please prioritize common-sense solutions that keep our farms and rural communities strong.