



The League of Women Voters of Oregon, established in 1920, is a grassroots nonpartisan political organization that encourages informed and active participation in government. We envision informed Oregonians participating in a fully accessible, responsive, and transparent government to achieve the common good. LWVOR Legislative Action is based on advocacy positions formed through studies and member consensus. The League never supports or opposes any candidate or political party.

March 13, 2025

To: Rep. [Dacia Grayber](#), Chair, Rep. [Lucetta Elmer](#) and Rep. [Lesly Munoz](#), Vice-Chairs, and
Members of the [House Committee on Labor and Workplace Standards](#)

Re: [HB 2548](#) – Farmworkers Standards Board – **Support**

The League of Women Voters of Oregon (LWVOR) supports the establishment of a Farmworkers Standards Board. We stand on the position of the League of Women Voters of Oregon: “We support efforts to secure equal rights and equal opportunity for all and promote social and economic justice...of all Americans.”

Further, LWVOR “believes all citizens benefit from the agricultural bounty produced by Oregon’s farmers and farmworkers, and that the state has a role in supporting the sound and fair relationship between farmers and the agricultural workforce, with the goal of economic and social justice for both parties...Where farm work is similar to other labor, regulatory differences should be narrowed.”

A Farmworkers Standards Board is necessary to bring rights to agricultural workers equal to those afforded to other workers. Such workers, often immigrants, are not second-class workers. They work hard with bodies and minds. Our food system is dependent upon their labor. Their rights as workers deserve to be protected with regular review by a conscientious Labor Standards Board.

The League supports the establishment of a Farmworkers Standards Board in Oregon because it changes the fundamental bias that farm work is something anyone can do and farm workers are dispensable. Regulations should apply to all workers. This bill recognizes that there are skills and dangers on the job, ensuring training for workers and supervisors. Agricultural workers are often in a vulnerable position, but this bill guarantees that they get paid minimum wage and that they do not get fired without cause. This bill confirms that labor standards must be reviewed and updated. Oregonians will be held accountable for the work done to make their food and export it for profit.

The League of Women Voters of Oregon wholeheartedly supports HB 2548 and the establishment of a Labor Standards Board for agricultural workers. Please vote for HB 2548. Please vote for economic justice.

Thank you for the opportunity to discuss this legislation.

Barbara Klein
Acting President LWVOR

Claudia Keith
Climate Emergency Coordinator

Nancy Rosenberger
Immigration, Refugees, and
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Cc: Rep. [Valderrama](#), Rep. [Munoz](#), Rep. Nelson, [Kirk Maag](#)