



**Testimony of Senator Khanh Pham**  
**In Support of HB 2548 – Establishing the Farmworker Standards Board**  
**House Committee on Labor and Workplace Standards**

**March 12, 2025**

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

My name is Khanh Pham, and I am honored to represent Senate District 23 in Northeast and Southeast Portland. I am here today in strong support of HB 2548, which will establish a Farmworkers Standard Board in Oregon.

Oregon farmworkers are excluded from the National Labor Relations Act (NLRA) despite how integral they are to our state's economic success. These workers contribute to the livelihood of all Oregonians by providing the food we have on our tables. Without the right to unionize and engage in collective bargaining, agricultural workers face higher risks of economic instability, unsafe working conditions, and wrongful termination. These consequences are more severe for the Latino and immigrant community, who comprise a significant portion of Oregon's agricultural workforce.

In this time of rapid climate change, farmworkers face increasing weather extremes first hand. For agricultural workers who lack adequate workplace protections, they endure hazardous conditions without necessary safeguards. Under the Trump administration, worker rights are threatened through deregulation, anti-worker executive orders, and interference with labor enforcement agencies which will inevitably impact farmworkers alongside other industries and workers in Oregon who deserve safe working conditions. The implications of the Trump administration's assault on workers' rights coupled with growing threats of climate change place Oregon's farmworkers in an increasingly precarious position if left unaddressed. Now is the time to act.

HB 2548 will provide practical and equitable industry standards to prevent the exploitation of Oregon farmworkers. This board will serve to enhance compliance and accountability measures for employers and employees through establishing fair wages, safer working conditions, and job sustainability in the agricultural sector. It is time that we rightfully extend the same rights to labor protections that other industries have to the agricultural workforce. Together, Oregon can protect our workers, our food, and our community. I urge your support for HB 2548. Thank you.