



Farmworker Overtime Testimony Guide

Writing Your Testimony:

- The key messages and testimony example will help guide you in writing your own personalized testimony. It is important to share with legislators why **you** care about extending overtime pay protections to farmworkers.
- Once submitted, written and oral testimonies become public information. Please use discretion, do not add any personal information you would not like the public to see.
- If you need someone to review your testimony or would like help submitting your testimony, email lizmarquez@pcun.org

Submitting Written Testimony:

- Submit your written testimony at: TBA
- [How to Submit Written Testimony on OLIS](#)

Deadline: Monday, February 7th by 1pm

Final Deadline to Submit: Tuesday 2/8, 5 PM

SAMPLE TESTIMONY BELOW

[ADD YOUR LOGO]

[Fair Shot 2022 Priority Stamp]

Date:

To: House Committee on Business and Labor

From: **Your Name/Organization**

Re: Support for Farmworker Overtime

Chair Holvey, Vice Chairs Bonham and Grayber, and Members of the House Business and Labor Committee,

My name is _____, and I live in _____ and/or I am writing on behalf of [*Insert sentence or two about your union/ organization/group/ business/yourself*].

I am writing to you today in support of farmworker overtime. Farmworkers should receive overtime pay after 40 hours in a workweek at one and one-half times the employee's regular rate of pay.

[In this section, share why you/your org care about farmworkers and why they should receive overtime pay]

KEY MESSAGES: Include 3 or 4 of the key messages in your testimony

Equality and Justice:

- Farmworkers deserve dignity, respect and labor rights. For too long they have been denied rights other workers have been afforded.
- Farmworkers have been excluded from the minimum wage protections, child labor laws, and overtime pay since the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938.
- Farmworkers are not second-class workers and deserve the same rights as the rest of workers. Farmworkers deserve to be treated humanely.

Health and Wellness:

- Overtime pay law was created to discourage employers from overworking employees
- Before 1938, employers overworked workers even to the point of death
- Extending overtime pay protections to farmworkers will create better health conditions and a longer life for farmworkers.

Quality of Life:

- Exclusion from overtime pay requires farmworkers to work many hours without having time to do other things.
- Overtime pay would give farmworkers more time outside of work.
- Farmworkers should be able to spend more time with their families or tend to other responsibilities, instead of spending most of their life at work.

Economic:

- Farmworkers deserve a living wage to pay for their living expenses.
- Farmworkers are some of the lowest paid workers in Oregon with a median income of \$28,000 a year.
- We can't afford not to pay farmworkers in Oregon overtime. Washington and California already have farmworker overtime laws on the books. If we don't pay our skilled farmworkers what they deserve, they will take their abilities to where they are better compensated, leaving Oregon farms behind.

I urge you to pass farmworker overtime in the 2022 Legislative Session to ensure farmworkers in Oregon are paid fairly for their skilled and essential labor.

Sincerely,

Name

Position Title/Role

Organization