

Co-Chairs Brownlee and Jordan, and members of the Committee, I am Patty Clark and I currently serve as a Deputy Secretary in the Department of Commerce. Thank you for the opportunity to speak in favor of SB 288.

Commerce would be happy to provide an annual compliance and monitoring report on our Workforce Development Division and its programs to the Committees as outlined in SB 288, with or without this legislation. Our agency always welcomes the opportunity to share this type of oversight information, as well as information on the economic impact of Commerce programs, to any Committee interested in listening.

As a point of information, these internal audit activities and personnel are housed in our Commerce Legal Division with a direct reporting line to the Secretary to ensure reporting of research and findings is forthright and to ensure that if follow-up actions are necessary those actions are undertaken with high priority. The staff includes five positions. One of those is half-time to provide oversight to the Migrant and Seasonal Farm Workers program.

Thank you.