



April 22, 2015

Ways and Means Joint Committee
Committee Services Offices
900 Court Street, NE, Room 453
Salem, Oregon 97301

RE: Testimony in Support of Business Oregon

Committee Chairs Senator Devlin and Representative Buckley, I'm writing to voice my support to the budget request by Business Oregon. Business Oregon is a key strategic partner with the City of Hillsboro for economic development and job creation and retention.

The City of Hillsboro works closely with Business Oregon in business retention and expansion, working with their Portland Metro Regional Development Officer (RDO). The RDO's collaborate with local economic development organizations to bring the resources of the state to job retention and expansion projects.

Another important partnership for business development with the state is on international business development. Hillsboro's high technology cluster, anchored by Intel, has over a dozen Japanese supplier firms in the city. We recently returned from Japan on a mission led by Business Oregon to call on our existing companies and also to meet in individual meetings and in a business seminar to present Hillsboro and Oregon as a place to locate and grow new investment. The Japan Representative Office is a key asset for Oregon in Japan, and frankly our successes in Japan would not be possible without that office.

Hillsboro has a significant portion of the regions, and in fact the states, inventory of vacant industrial land for large single users to locate new manufacturing facilities. We are creating a tool box for infrastructure in our North Hillsboro Industrial Area and the Special Public Works Fund is one of the tools we are discussing to be in that tool box. As such, we support the recapitalization of the SPWF.

Finally, I'd like to express the City's Support for the Regional Solutions Center (RSC). Another example of a partnership with the State for economic development is in our North Hillsboro Industrial Area. Through the partnership with the RSC, we were able to recertified one of our key industrial sites as shovel ready. The RSC brought together multiple state regulatory agencies, and also a few federal ones, to accomplish this task in a collaborative and expeditious way.

We work closely with Business Oregon and that partnership has real benefits to Hillsboro and the state's economy through job creation and tax revenue to support vital public services. We look forward to continuing that partnership with a vital and robust state economic development agency.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mark Clemons', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Mark Clemons, Economic Development Director
City of Hillsboro



Jewish Federation
OF GREATER PORTLAND

THE **STRENGTH** OF A PEOPLE.
THE **POWER** OF COMMUNITY.

March 30, 2015

Sen. Richard Devlin, Co-Chair
Joint Ways and Means Committee
900 Court St. NE, H-272
Salem, Oregon 97301

Sen. Alan Bates, Co-Chair
Human Services Subcommittee
900 Court St. NE, S-205
Salem, Oregon 97301

Rep. Peter Buckley, Co-Chair
Joint Ways and Means Committee
900 Court St. NE, S-211
Salem, Oregon 97301

Rep. Nancy Nathanson, Co-Chair
Human Services Subcommittee
900 Court St. NE, H-280
Salem, Oregon 97301

Dear Senators Devlin and Bates and Representatives Buckley and Nathanson,

On behalf of the Jewish Federation of Greater Portland, representing thousands of Jewish Oregonians, I am asking you to invest a minimum of \$3.25 million in the Oregon Hunger Response Fund for the 2015-17 Department of Human Services budget. The fund helps Oregon food banks acquire and distribute emergency food to over 950 partner agencies across the Oregon, serving hungry families with nutritious foods.

The Oregon Food Bank Network forms an integral part of Oregon's social safety net, which is critical for a state that continues to rank as one of the hungriest in the nation. For the last three years, the Network has distributed over *one million* food boxes to families experience hunger, over 80 million pounds of food statewide. That's a lot of food insecure households and a lot of food. About a third of the households that have sought emergency food services from the Oregon Food Bank Network have children under the ages of 17 years and seven percent are households with seniors over the age of 65 years. Twenty percent are households with veterans.

The fight against hunger requires a partnership between the private and public sectors. The Oregon Hunger Response Fund is the state's contribution to this effort. The Fund is critical to helping the Oregon Food Bank Network serve families in communities all across the state.

Please join the Jewish Federation of Greater Portland and the Oregon Food Bank Network in combatting hunger in our state. With a strong investment in the Oregon Hunger Response Fund, we can dramatically reduce hunger in Oregon.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Bob Horenstein
Director of Community Relations

CHAIR
David Forman

CAMPAIGN CHAIR
Lauren Goldstein

ALLOCATIONS CHAIR
Simon Gottheiner

TREASURER
Josh Blank

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PRESIDENT AND CEO
Marc N. Blattner

**THE FEDERATION'S COMMUNITY PARTNERS
UNITED IN BUILDING OUR COMMUNITY**

American Jewish Joint Distribution
Committee
Birthright Israel
B'nai B'rith Camp Association
Cedar Sinai Park
Greater Portland Hillel
Hesed Shel Emet
Jewish Agency for Israel
Jewish Family & Child Service
Maayan Torah Day School
Maimonides Jewish Day School
Melton Adult Mini School
Mittleman Jewish Community Center
One Happy Camper
Oregon Board of Rabbis
Oregon Hillel
Oregon Jewish Museum and Center for
Holocaust Education
Portland Jewish Academy
World ORT

Member of:
Jewish Federations of North America
Jewish Council for Public Affairs

The Jewish Federation of Greater Portland
is a 501(c)3 organization



March 13, 2015

Sen. Richard Devlin, Co-Chair
Joint Ways and Means Committee
900 Court St. NE, H-272
Salem, Oregon 97301

Rep. Peter Buckley, Co-Chair
Joint Way and Means Committee
900 Court St. NE, S-211
Salem, Oregon 97301

Sen. Alan Bates, Co-Chair
Human Services Subcommittee
900 Court St. NE, S-205
Salem, Oregon 97301

Rep. Nancy Nathanson, Co-Chair
Human Services Subcommittee
900 Court St. NE, H-280
Salem, Oregon 97301

Dear Co-Chairs Devlin and Buckley,

We are asking you to invest a minimum of \$3.25 million in the Oregon Hunger Response Fund for the 2015-17 Department of Human Services budget. The fund helps Oregon food banks acquire and distribute emergency food to over 950 partner agencies across the Oregon, which includes 211info, serving hungry families with nutritious foods.

We are part of the Oregon Food Bank Network. Together we form an integral part of Oregon's social safety net. For the last three years, the Network has distributed over 1 million food boxes to families experience hunger, over 80 million pounds of food statewide. That's a lot of food insecure households and a lot of food. About a third of the households that have sought emergency food services from the Oregon Food Bank Network have children under the ages of 17 years. About 7 percent are households with individuals over the age of 65 years. And 20 percent are households with veterans.

We can't fight hunger alone. It takes a partnership among private and public sectors with community and faith based organizations and an army of volunteers. The Oregon Hunger Response Fund is the state's contribution to this effort. The Fund is critical to helping the Oregon Food Bank Network get food to the people who need it. 211info refers Oregonians to Oregon Food Bank Network sites 12,000 times a year; food is a primary need for 211info's clients, and we work closely with the Network to ensure that food resources are available.

Please join 211info and the Oregon Food Bank Network in the fight against hunger in our state. With a strong investment in the Oregon Hunger Response Fund, we can end hunger in Oregon.

Thank you.

Sincerely,




Dan Herman
Chief Executive Officer

cc The Honorable Tina Kotek, Speaker of the Oregon House of Representatives
 The Honorable Peter Courtney, Senate President


HOW CAN LOCAL FOOD PANTRIES HELP FAMILIES PAY BILLS?

A visit to a food pantry can provide a three to five day supply of food for a family. The Oregon Food Bank Network estimates 800,000 Oregonians received food from a food pantry last year. Food mostly comes in the form of fresh fruits and vegetables, frozen or canned foods. The value of the food ranges from \$30 for a one to two person household to \$100 for a five to eight person household. Each visit to a food pantry is the equivalent of an expense like utilities or a tank of gas.


Families can choose from a variety of foods including:



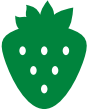
Vegetables




Grains




Protein




Fruit




Cereal




Milk



Dairy





Canned or prepared meals

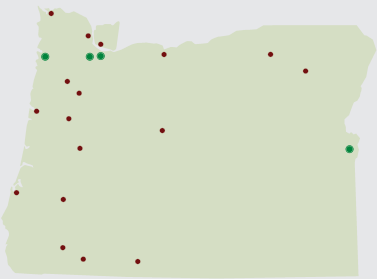


Eggs

For more information contact Phillip Kennedy-Wong at pkennedy-wong@oregonfoodbank.org or 971.313.8306.

Follow us on   Visit us at oregonfoodbank.org

OFB Network of Regional Food Banks



- OFB Metro Services, Portland
- OFB Southeast Oregon Services, Ontario
- OFB Tillamook County Services, Tillamook
- OFB Washington County Services, Beaverton
- ACCESS Food Share, Medford
- CAPECO Food Share, Pendleton
- CCA Regional Food Bank, Astoria
- Clark County Food Bank, Vancouver, WA
- Columbia Pacific Food Bank, St. Helens
- Community Connection, La Grande
- FOOD for Lane County, Eugene
- Food Share of Lincoln County, Newport
- Josephine County Food Bank, Grants Pass
- Klamath/Lake Counties Food Bank, Klamath Falls
- Linn-Benton Food Share, Corvallis
- Marion-Polk Food Share, Salem
- Mid-Columbia Community Action Council, The Dalles
- NeighborImpact, Redmond
- South Coast Food Share, Coos Bay
- UCAN Food Bank, Roseburg
- Yamhill Regional Food Bank, McMinnville



March 2015

Oregon Hunger Response Fund

2015-17 REQUEST: \$3.25 million



Fifteen percent of Oregon Households are food insecure according to *Household Food Security in the US 2013*, a study conducted by USDA. Oregon’s Legislature plays a key role in the fight against hunger through the Oregon Hunger Response Fund. Established in 1999, the Oregon Hunger Response Fund helps Oregon food banks build capacity to acquire and distribute food to Oregonians experiencing food insecurity.

Members of the Oregon Food Bank Network work together to solicit bulk food donations from Oregon farms and food products from processors, recover food from retail outlets and encourage donations through community food drives. Large bulk food donations are routed through Oregon Food Bank where volunteers break them into suitable units for households. Every week, food is delivered to 20 regional food banks within Oregon who in turn distribute food to approximately 960 partner agencies, which include local pantries and meal sites across the state.

The Oregon Food Bank Network relies heavily on donations from the food

industry, financial contributions from the private sector and time from thousands of volunteers to acquire and distribute food statewide. However there is still a gap to be filled. The combined operating costs of 20 regional food banks is approximately \$20 million annually and last year the Network collectively purchased \$2.1 million in food.

During the 2013-15 biennium \$2.72 million was allocated to the Oregon Hunger Response Fund. It made a difference to families in every corner of the state. It helped children stay healthy and attend school, it relieved stress in the lives of working parents and it gave peace to seniors and people with disabilities.

Building Healthy Communities

With help from the Oregon Hunger Response Fund, last year Clatsop Community Action Regional Food Bank improved access to fresh fruits and vegetables for people in need. They created a mobile produce pantry to distribute food in select sites around **Seaside, Astoria** and **Warrenton**. Over the course of last summer, the produce pantries distributed more than 170,000 pounds of fresh fruits and vegetables. Of those who took advantage of the produce, 60 percent were senior citizens a demographic that is difficult to reach because of limited transportation options. On-site cooking demonstrations and recipe sharing helped build skills and encouraged people to eat more produce. The mobile pantries also helped connect volunteers, residents, farmers and even tourists to the work of CCA Regional Food Bank.



Engaging the Community



By leveraging support from the Oregon Hunger Response Fund, **Marion-Polk Food Share** has raised the needed resources to help feed families fighting hunger. Their fundraising strategy focused on attracting and maintaining donors that give monthly. In one year, Marion-Polk Food Share increased their monthly giving

by 5 percent and engaged more than 130 new donors. **The initial investment of about \$50,000 from Oregon Hunger Response Fund resulted in a return of \$550,000.** These funds are helping the organization serve 47,000 families each month.

Promoting Healthy Eating



In Portland, the Oregon Hunger Response Fund supported pantries committed to promoting healthy options for clients. Eight pantries from **Washington, Clackamas** and **Multnomah** counties joined the Healthy Pantry Initiative. The program equiped and trained pantry staff and volunteers on how to encourage and teach clients to make healthy food choices. In addition, the pantry distributed and shared educational materials and cooking techniques were demonstrated. Pantries around the state are looking to learn from this model and a second group of pantries will begin the program this spring.

Expanding Partnerships

The expansion of ACCESS Food Share's Fresh Alliance program strengthened partnerships with retailers and nonprofits in **Southern Oregon**. Fresh Alliance is a program that collects perishable foods from retailers for distribution at local pantries. Foods such as meat, dairy and produce are nearing the sell-by date but are still safe to eat. The program is operated by two staff members through monies from the Oregon Hunger Response Fund. In 2014, more than one million pounds of food was redirected through the program to people struggling to make ends meet. It was a **25 percent increase** over the previous year. The increase in donations allowed ACCESS to support **ten new food distribution partners** and provide produce to **three school lunch programs**.



April 21, 2015

Portland Ways & Means Road Show Testimony

For the record my name is Adam Meyer, I live at 25th and Lovejoy in NW Portland. I work on behalf of the Oregon Conservation Network, but I am here today speaking on behalf of myself.

Members of the Ways and Means committee:

Continued public involvement is one of the most essential parts of a healthy society in Oregon. And I thank you for the opportunity to speak to you today.

My family moved to Oregon 160 years ago, and I hope we will be here for 160 more. This is to say, I have a strong interest in seeing this state thriving and healthy.

Last year I ran across the United States with a colleague, where we met with over 100 community leaders. We asked about what makes each community successful, and shared best practices. In Oregon, it was clear that our natural resources are the bedrock of our communities.

Today I'd like to highlight the importance of those natural resources. Few places have as many incredible natural resources as Oregon, and far fewer have been as successful at maintaining them for public use. Our public beaches, inner city parks, climbing forests, fertile farmland, and winding rivers have always defined Oregon and served as the state's economic base. Protecting these resources is essential for our livelihood and that of future generations.

To this end, I would like to encourage this committee to support increased investment in natural resource agencies, which now constitutes less than 2% of the states budget. Specifically I encourage the committee to support the ODFW license and fee changes and general fund transfers. Additionally, I hope you support funding for fish biologists, who provide fish management and in-stream data.

Yesterday the Governor declared a drought emergency in two more counties, bringing the total number to seven. How we manage our natural resources today will have long-standing consequences or benefits in future years. I know you have a lot of important issues to balance and I appreciate your thoughtful work.

Thank you for your attention.

My name is Kevin Rackham. I'm a Beaverton resident currently in my senior year at Portland State University. I'm here today to ask you to prioritize higher education funding in the budget and urge you to vote yes on HB 2662, otherwise known as Pay It Forward. When my capstone class met in the fall of 2012, our goal was to study Oregon's student debt crisis and brainstorm solutions to it. We compiled a research paper on the student debt crisis and evaluated PIF as a solution. We compared this idea to programs like loan forgiveness and free community college and found this was a better deal for students and for the state.

While working on PIF, I've heard so many stories of how student debt is affecting Oregonians' ability to provide for themselves and their families. I've been in group projects with people who have 2 jobs and 2 kids and can't make it to any meetings. I've met men and women in their 60s and 70s who are deferring retirement because they have student loans to pay off, or because they're trying to help children and grandchildren pay off theirs. I know way too many kids from my high school's graduating class got into colleges but couldn't go because their parents couldn't afford to send them and they didn't qualify for financial aid. I've watched them have to put college plans off year after year. Student debt, coupled with soaring tuition rates, has kept thousands of Oregonians from fulfilling their potential.

More than 20 states have begun examining PIF legislation, but they are still looking to Oregon for leadership and proof of concept. The pilot has been approved in independent examinations by the Treasurer's office and two PNW-based economic analysts. PIF is a home-grown solution to Oregon's debt crisis, but more than that, those projections show it to be a long-term, sustainable way to finance higher education in our state.

Pay It Forward isn't a cure-all for our higher education system, which is why the state must invest more in higher education, but it opens up doors to students who would otherwise have been unable to afford taking on the burden of debt that pursuing a college degree would mean. It allows disadvantaged and first generation students to follow their dreams without tens of thousands of dollars of debt. Oregon's PIF graduates will be able to buy homes, start businesses and have families without the encumbrance that so many of our current graduates now face. They will also have the opportunity to pursue careers that benefit the public without massive student debt. Lawyers and doctors could more easily pursue non-profit or pro-bono work.

I'm originally from Albany, which was hit hard by the recession. I watched hundreds of people enroll in community college after losing their jobs, hoping to better themselves, only to drop out the next term or the next year because they couldn't afford to take on the debt it involved. I know too many brilliant people from Albany, from Portland, and from all across the state, who were priced out of higher education. Pay It Forward could help those people pursue their dreams. Please help get Oregon's education system back on track, and vote yes on HB 2662.

From: [Emily Ritchie](#)
To: [waysandmeans budget](#)
Subject: Follow up testimony from PCC Rock Creek hearing
Date: Wednesday, April 22, 2015 10:06:53 AM

Hello,

I'm writing to you today because I was unable to speak at last night's hearing in Portland due to the high volume of attendees.

Please pass HB 2721. It is important to me. My name is Emily Ritchie and I represent the board of [Slow Food Portland](#). For the past 3 years, I was the FoodCorps Fellow for our state, based at the Oregon Department of Agriculture. I lead a team who provided under-resourced communities with AmeriCorps members who taught healthy habits through school gardens and school food procurement.

Today, I proudly support HB 2721, the Farm to School Bill, which is an evolution of a program that so masterfully supports communities economically, supports students educationally, and supports their health.

The farm to school program makes a real difference in kids' lives AND it's having a significant economic impact. In the 2013-14 school year--the first year of the two-year grant cycle--it provided an investment of **\$316,190** (this is the amount of *grant funds* school districts spent on Oregon foods that first year of the grant). Through that investment, it helped schools procure more than **\$7.5 million in Oregon Foods** (this is the *total amount* those same school districts spent on all Oregon foods during that same period). This relatively small investment by the state has shown a significant return in terms of economic impact and school food dollars that are staying in Oregon!

This is important to me because I believe all kids should have access to fresh, healthy, local food and understand the economic role of farming in our state. This bill will have a significant economic impact immediately as well as long term. As children learn about good, clean, fair food that comes from Oregon, they will grow up with the knowledge of how to make healthy choices. Healthy Oregonians means a healthy economy. This bill benefits so many pieces of our lives: agriculture, rural communities, students, education. The benefits to everyone is a given and we need to keep moving forward.

On behalf of Slow Food Portland, we thank you for your consideration.

--

Emily Ritchie

My name is Allison Lathrop, and I am Chair of the School Kitchen Garden Committee at Abernethy Elementary School in Portland. I am here to address the part of HB2721 that provides competitive grants for garden-based education. My goal is to help the Committee understand why this education really works.

Nutritionists know that children need to try some foods 10-15 times before they develop a taste for it. Garden-based education gives this process a jump start. In the cafeteria, students make some of their first independent decisions about what to eat. The foods that they have studied in garden class look familiar. Locally grown fruits and vegetables from places they recognize also look familiar. This familiarity makes a real difference. When we first served Brussels sprouts in the cafeteria, the students were so wild about them that they came back through the lunch line begging for seconds. We ran out after serving 75 pounds of Brussels sprouts. The impact is not limited to children. Parents often approach school staff requesting recipes. Whole families discover that they actually like to eat asparagus and turnips.

At Abernethy, 93% of parents report that the garden education has a “positive” or “very positive” effect on food choices. These opinions are supported by quantitative research. Garden-based education increases the consumption of fresh fruits and vegetables.¹ It also improves science test scores²!

We have found very few grants available for established garden programs like ours. For the last five years, our program has been almost entirely parent funded. We struggle to raise the money we need. House Bill 2721 represents an extraordinary opportunity to simultaneously serve goals for health, education, agriculture, and economy. Please give it your support.

¹ (Canaris, 1995; Hermann et al., 2006; Libman, 2007; McAleese & Rankin, 2007; Pothukuchi, 2004).

² (Klemmer, Waliczek, & Zajicek, 2005; Dirks & Orvis, 2005; Smith & Motsenbocker, 2005)

**Testimony to Joint Committee on Ways and Means
Rob Drake, City Manager
City of Cornelius
April 21, 2015**

Co-Chairs, Senate and House Committee Members:

Thank you for coming to Washington County to accept testimony on the State Budget. I am here to ask for your continued financial support for the State's Infrastructure Finance Authority (IFA) program. It has been of great benefit to the City of Cornelius these past eighteen months as we have received guaranteed loan funding, low interest rates and some grant funds to drill and develop an ASR (Aquifer Storage & Recovery) well for potable water storage in the city. When I arrived three years ago, the city was investigating building a 2-million gallon above-ground reservoir. I asked the Council to let me present an ASR well concept as an alternative water storage mechanism. This technology and underground storage is identical to what we developed and utilized during my service in Beaverton during the late 1990's. The bottom line, we have completed drilling for the ASR storage well and it will store between 50-90 million gallons underground. In addition, we will be able to save considerable money by pumping the water into the ground during the winter months when we can purchase it much more cheaply from our wholesale provider, the City of Hillsboro. We will pump it out of the ground during the summer peak consumption periods.

In 2003, during my service as the Mayor of Beaverton, I also served as President for the League of Oregon Cities. I learned then from many smaller cities in the state that it has been the IFA that has loaned funds at lower interest rates for

major water, storm and sewer infrastructure projects statewide. The IFA allows the smaller, less affluent cities to afford the major infrastructure projects that are critical to the welfare and quality of life for the many smaller cities in Oregon.

Lastly, I hope the legislature will continue to consider and adopt a transportation funding package. These funds are critical to small and large cities. We believe that a healthy transportation system promotes economic development and supports a higher quality of life in many ways. In Cornelius, by Census, over 20% of our population is considered disabled. We were incorporated in 1893, the same year as Beaverton, and have considerable mobility issues for people who are disabled and must rely on wheel chairs being utilized on sidewalks for getting from one point to another. Our sidewalks, ramps and street intersections are old and getting badly broken down. We can afford only a small amount of improvements each year for projects other than laying asphalt to save the condition of our pavement. Our story is similar to other cities. Please support a reasonable transportation funding package. With copies of my testimony, I have attached a brochure outlining the formal League of Oregon Cities position on the need for funding a major transportation package.

Testimony prepared for the Oregon Joint Ways & Means Committee hearing, Portland Community College – Rock Creek Campus,

April 21, 2015

My name is Mike Johnson. I'm the Director of Financial Aid & Scholarships at Portland State University. I'm here to join the students, staff, and faculty who have already contacted you to ask that \$755 million in state funds be allocated to Oregon's public universities for the 2015-17 biennium. Increased state funding will allow Portland State to provide more financial assistance to our neediest students. The more students we can assist financially, the more students we can graduate; and the more students we can graduate, the more civic-minded, healthy, and economically strong our society will be.

Portland State enrolls about 29,000 students. About three-quarters of them receive some kind of financial aid, and about 40% of the undergraduates are needy enough to receive Federal Pell Grants. That's a large percentage compared to similar institutions. Full-time, Oregon resident, Federal Pell Grant recipients need between \$19,000 and \$24,000 each academic year to cover their education-related costs. Federal Direct Loans, which of course are not the ideal funding source, can cover only about one-third of those costs for our neediest students.

My perspective on the need for increased state funding comes from my detailed understanding of the challenges our students are facing in the current federal funding environment. As a result of those challenges, many of Portland State's students need more financial assistance than we're able to offer them. These three examples illustrate that point:

- First, due to sequestration reductions and annual federal budget constraints, schools' allocations of two kinds of need-based aid – the Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant (FSEOG) and Federal Work-Study (FWS) – have been flat for several years. At Portland State, we can only award those grants to about 500 students, and we can employ fewer than 400 students in the work-study program.
- Second, the Federal Perkins Loan program, which provides low interest loans for our neediest students, hasn't received new funding since 2009. Using funds that previous borrowers have repaid, we're only able to offer these loans to 500 or so students each year. Worse, unless Congress chooses to extend this program – which seems unlikely – on October 1st it will cease to exist for all but a very limited number of continuing borrowers.
- Third, a student's lifetime Federal Pell Grant eligibility has been reduced from 18 full-time semesters to 12 full-time semesters or the equivalent – combined for all schools the student has attended. That change was made in 2013 and was – amazingly – implemented retroactively to 1973. As a result, many transfer students are exhausting their eligibility before they can complete their degrees.

Exacerbating the problem, recent legislative changes have increased the cost of borrowing Federal Direct Loans:

- Interest rates are now fixed for the life of each loan, which means that a new fixed interest rate is assigned to new loans each academic year. Since that change was made in 2012, interest rates have increased each year and are likely to do so again this year.
- Loan fees are subject to sequestration rules and have increased each year since 2013, reducing the net amount disbursed to students.
- Undergraduate borrowers can receive interest subsidies on need-based loans only for a period of time equal to 150% of the published length of their current academic program. Borrowing at all schools they've attended is combined for this calculation, which means that, like the lifetime limit for Federal Pell Grants, this change is adversely affecting transfer students the most.

I hope that these examples have shown how difficult it is to provide adequate funding and to control higher education costs for our neediest students. Thank you for considering the many requests you've received to increase funding for higher education. I can assure you that the funds will be put to good use, and will have a significant, long-term impact for our students and our state.

Please feel free to contact me if you need additional information. I can be reached at (503) 725-5442 and at g.michael.johnson@pdx.edu.

From: [jennifer Crump Farias](#)
To: [waysandmeans budget](#)
Subject: Please Fund Education!
Date: Tuesday, April 21, 2015 8:45:10 PM

To the Means and Ways Committee,

I'm a mother of 3 small children that attend the Beaverton School District. I am very involved with the school as a PTO board member and believe that education is the single most important gift we can give our children. A child who has been given a solid education will grow up to be a productive and active member of our society that will give back to others and will be ready to handle whatever challenges life might bring.

I know that currently the budget is being divided between Education, Social Services and Prisons. I understand that both Social Services and Prisons are in need of funding, there are for sure some very touching testimonies from people that have suffered greatly as a consequence of abuse, poverty and other factors. But the underlying truth is that the only way to help our society is through funding education and giving every child a fighting chance to be succesful in life. You, as a committee, have to understand that our kids are the future and that by denying them a proper education you are ensuring that in a near future both Social Services and Prisons will be overwhelmed as a consequences of poorly educated children growing to be dependents of society as opposed to active leaders and members of it.

In addition to the above, if you compare the 3 budget sections (Education, Social Services and Prisons), Education is the one that will benefit the most people and an increase in its funding will impact the most amount of families and for many years to come. Education is also the one that has the most growth in demand since there is a growth in enrollments every year, which should lead to an increase in funding as well to cover all the extra students that demand this service.

This is why I strongly believe that this committee should increase funding for education, so that we can get closer to the nation's standards to ensure that every oregonian has a chance to be succesful in life.

Thank you for your time,
Jennifer Farias

TO: Ways & Means Committee
FR: CM Hall, Western Region Interpreter Education Center
DA: April 21, 2015
RE: Support for SB 449

Good afternoon, Chair and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of Senate Bill 449. My name is CM Hall. I coordinate the Western Region Interpreter Education Center at Western Oregon University, I teach courses on DeafBlind interpreting and I have been a sign language interpreter here in Oregon for 22 years. I also serve on our national interpreter board, the Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf, and on the Oregon DeafBlind Task Force and the Oregon Deaf and Hard of Hearing Advisory Committee. We strongly urge passage of Senate Bill 449.

SB 449 would create an Office for Deaf, DeafBlind, and Hard of Hearing Services in Oregon. It acknowledges the need for critical services. We currently have a state agency that services blind and low vision Oregonians through the Oregon Commission for the Blind, however we do not have that same access point to serve Deaf, DeafBlind and Hard of Hearing Oregonians, who also experience stark economic, social, and educational inequities.

According to research provided by the Community Needs Assessment Committee, there are over 186,000 Oregonians with hearing loss. As an interpreter, I work with a large number of these individuals who are sign language users. Presently in Oregon, there are only 192 certified interpreters in Oregon, which means that many Deaf and DeafBlind individuals may be going without access to communication when needed. This can make it more challenging to access vocational training, rehabilitation counseling and mental health services, alcohol and drug treatment, or meaningful employment.

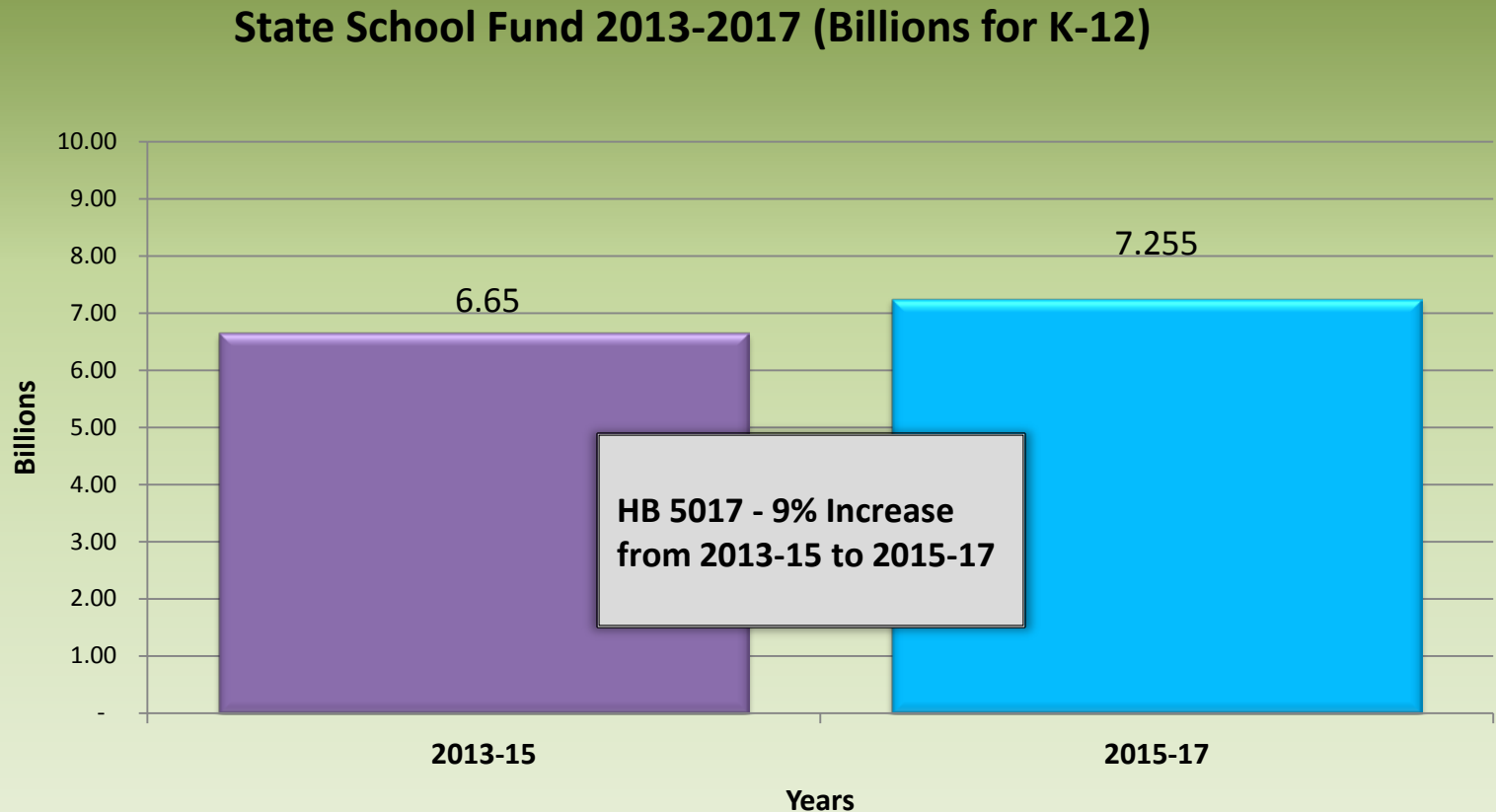
There is another unspoken and intangible impact of passing this bill. That is addressing a social prejudice. All too often, hearing individuals fixate on a Deaf, DeafBlind or Hard of Hearing person's so-called "brokenness" or their hearing "impairment." This behavior and belief is called audism. This may be a new term to you. Audism is the notion that one is superior based on one's ability to hear or that those who cannot are inferior and inept because of their audiological status; it's a belief that life without hearing is futile and miserable, or an attitude based

on pathological thinking which results in a negative stigma toward anyone who does not hear. I would doubt that folks who are testifying today feel sorry for themselves because they are Deaf or DeafBlind or Hard of Hearing. But because so many hearing people do, it unfairly disenfranchises Deaf folks and limits their access and opportunities. We need bold leadership to fix this system, to break down barriers and combat prejudice that Deaf people can't do things just because they can't hear. Having an Office dedicated to providing services and training would repair this.

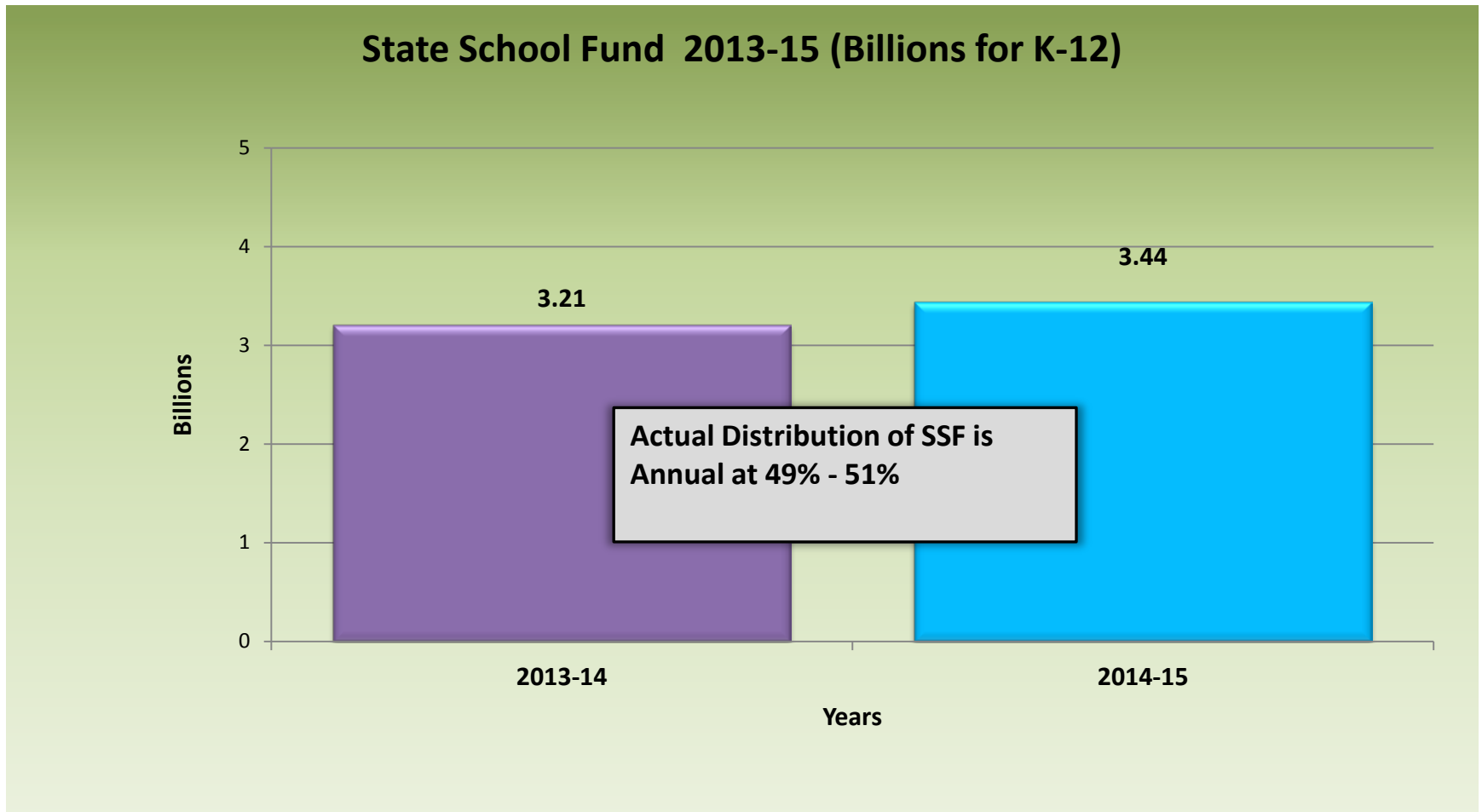
SB449 honors the dignity and worth of all our citizens, regardless of their hearing status and values Deaf, DeafBlind and Hard of Hearing Oregonians. On behalf of interpreters in these communities, we fully **support SB 449 in its entirety and we urge the Committee to move it forward.**

State Biennial Support What Does It Mean to Reynolds School District

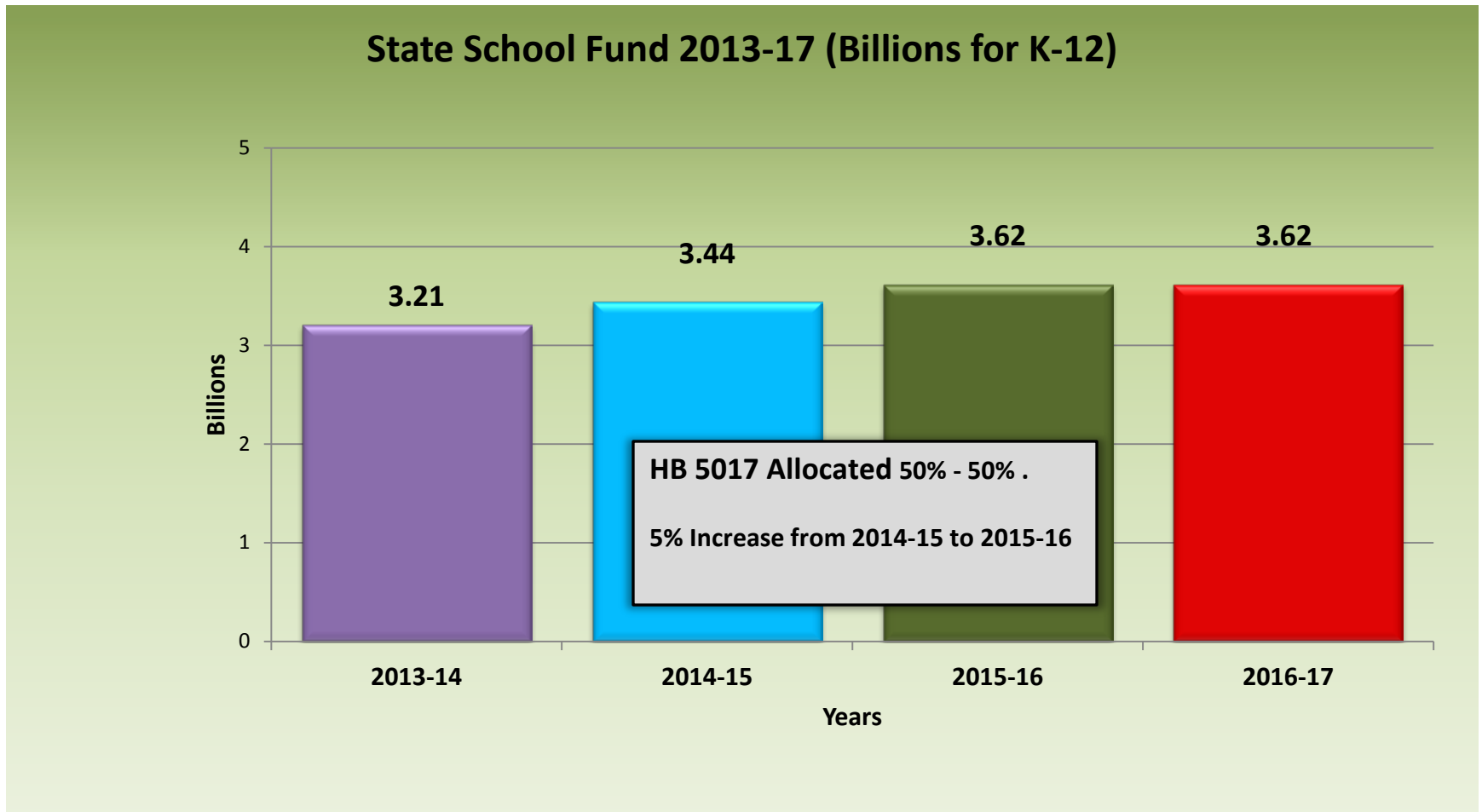
STATE BIENNIAL SUPPORT



STATE ANNUAL DISTRIBUTION

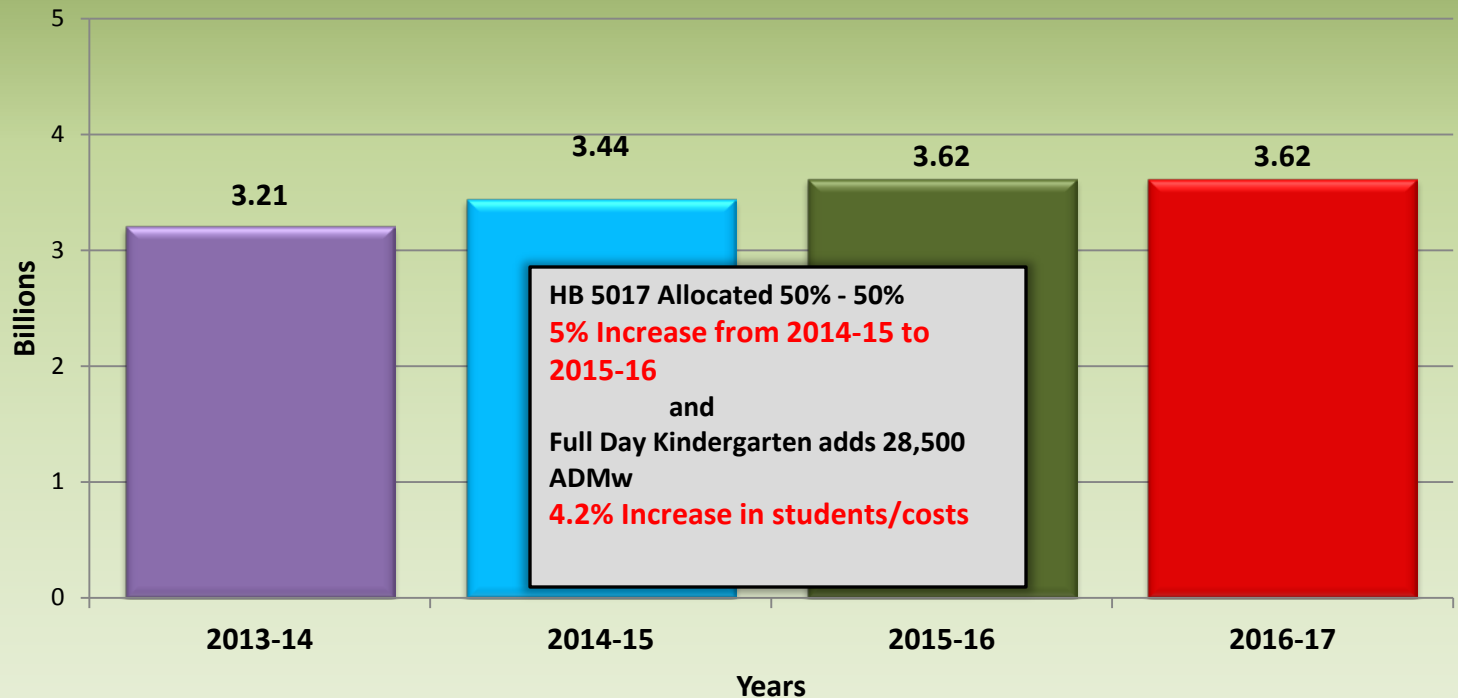


STATE ANNUAL DISTRIBUTION



STATE ANNUAL DISTRIBUTION

State School Fund 2013-17 (Billions for K-12)

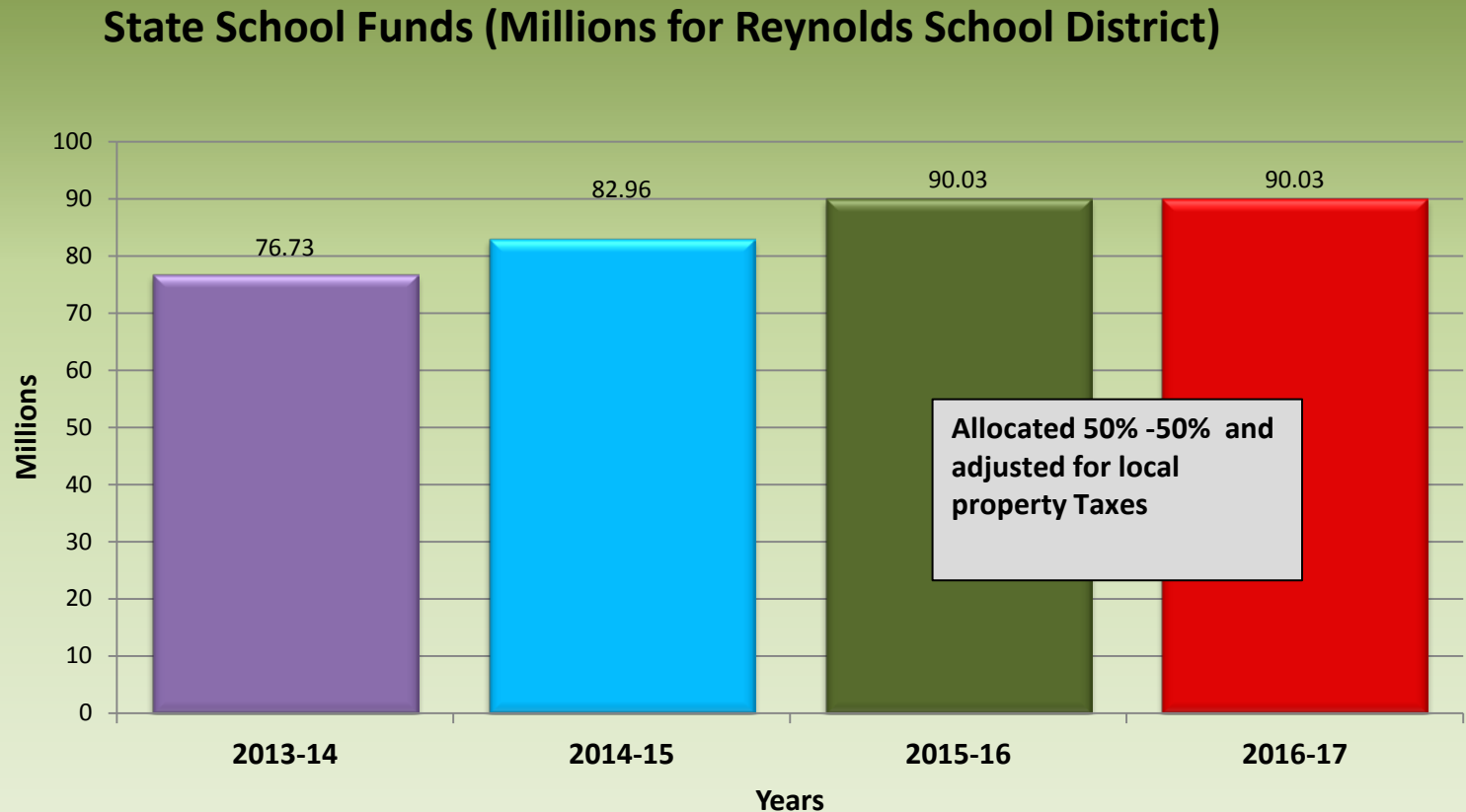


STATE DISTRIBUTION TO REYNOLDS SD

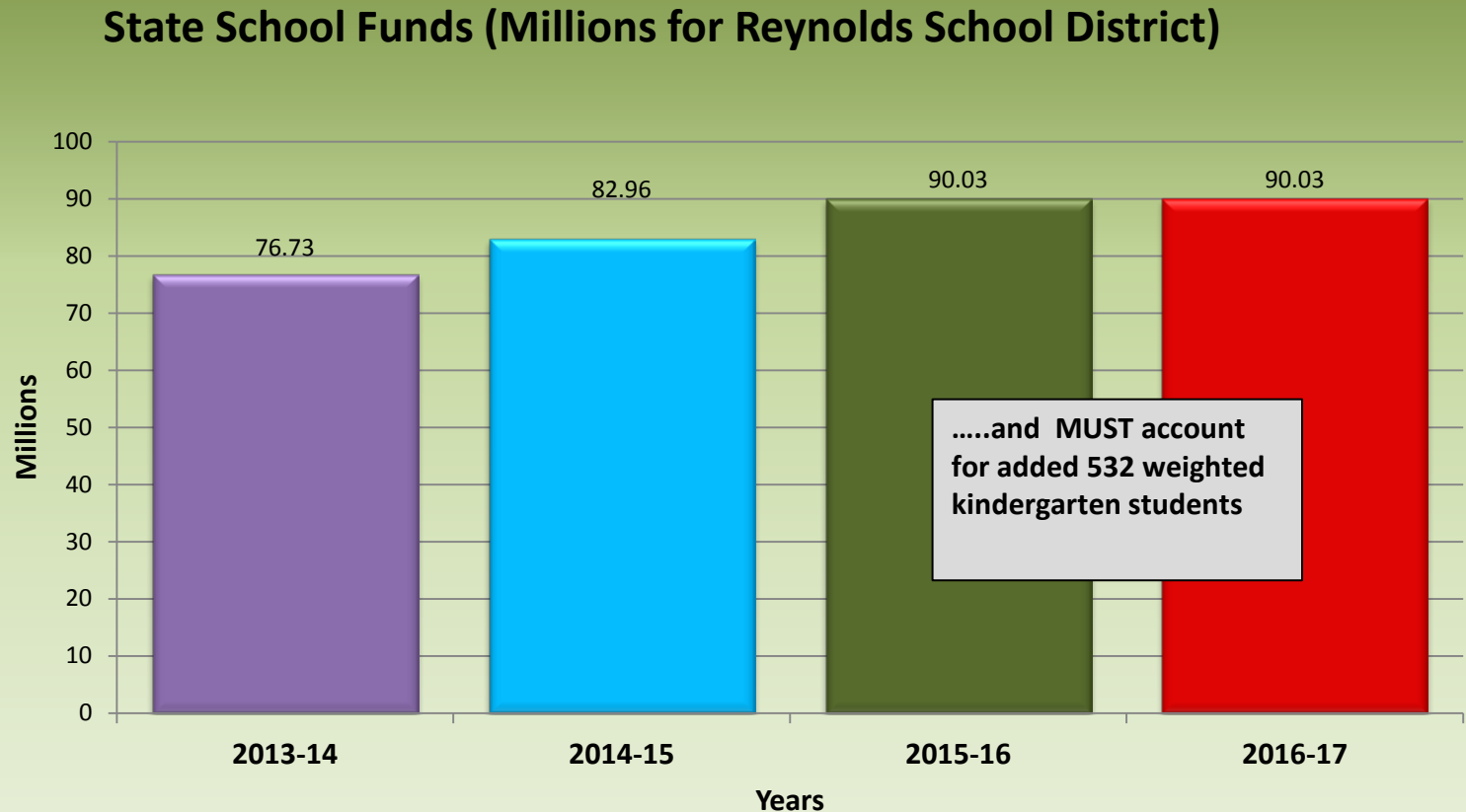
What Does It Mean



STATE DISTRIBUTION TO REYNOLDS SCHOOL DISTRICT



STATE DISTRIBUTION TO REYNOLDS SCHOOL DISTRICT

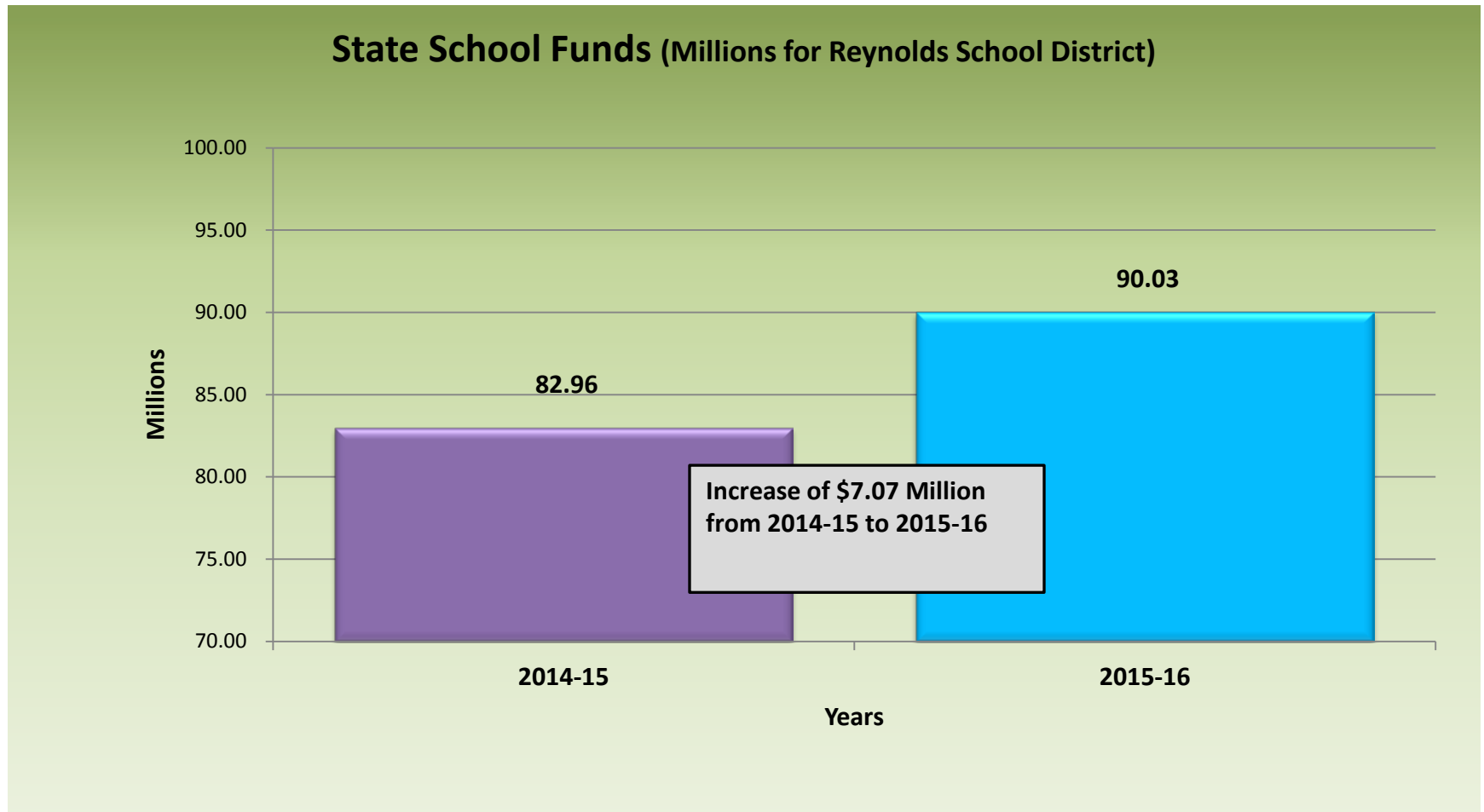


STATE PER STUDENT DISTRIBUTION

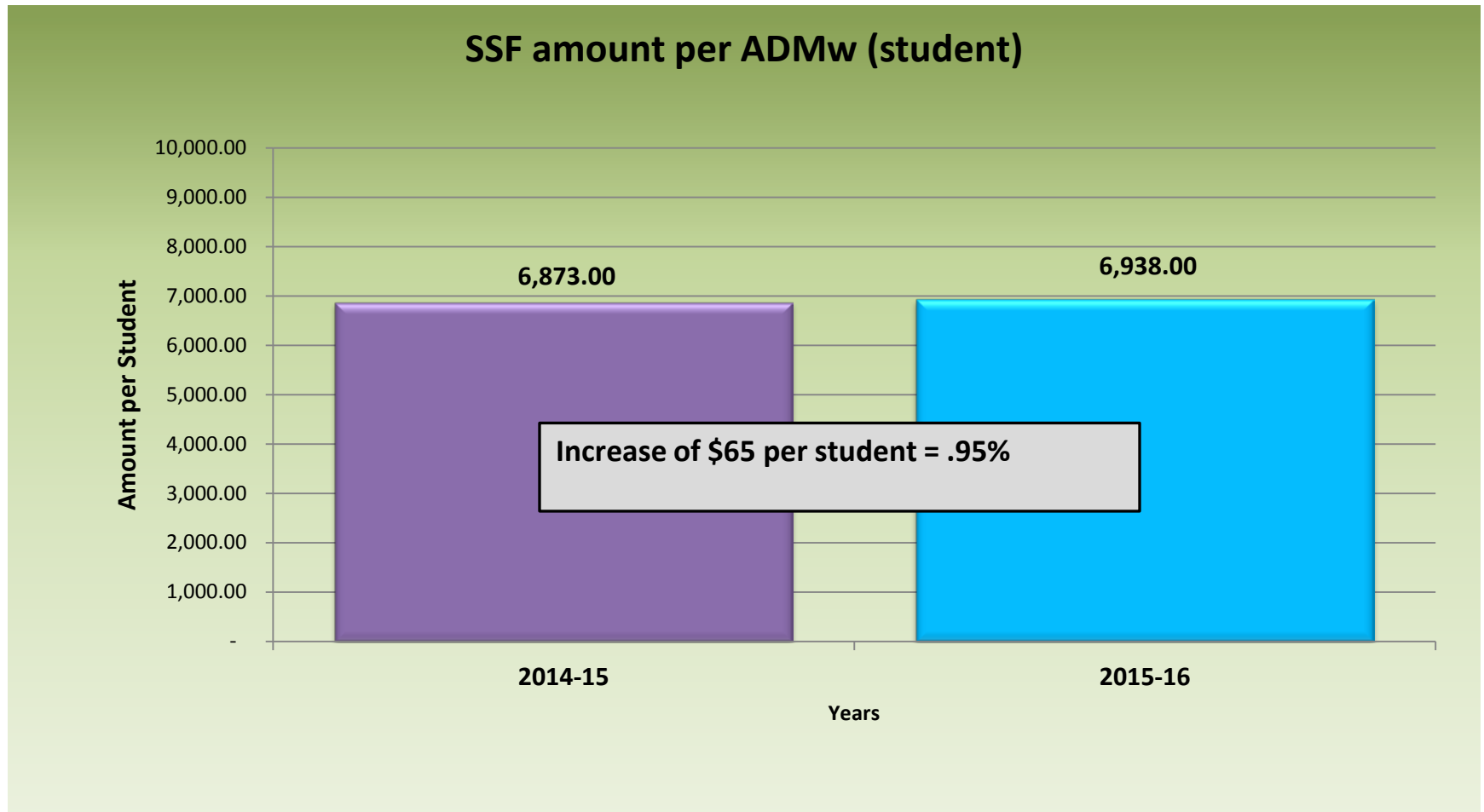
How much Reynolds School District receives per Student



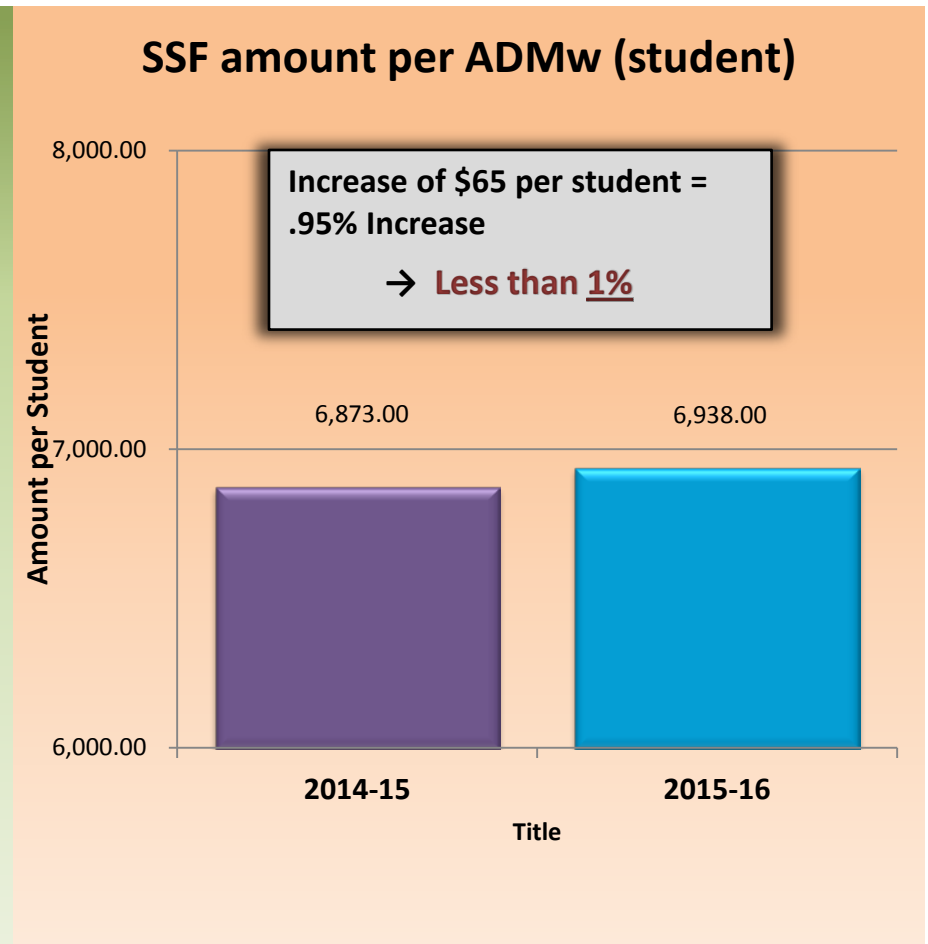
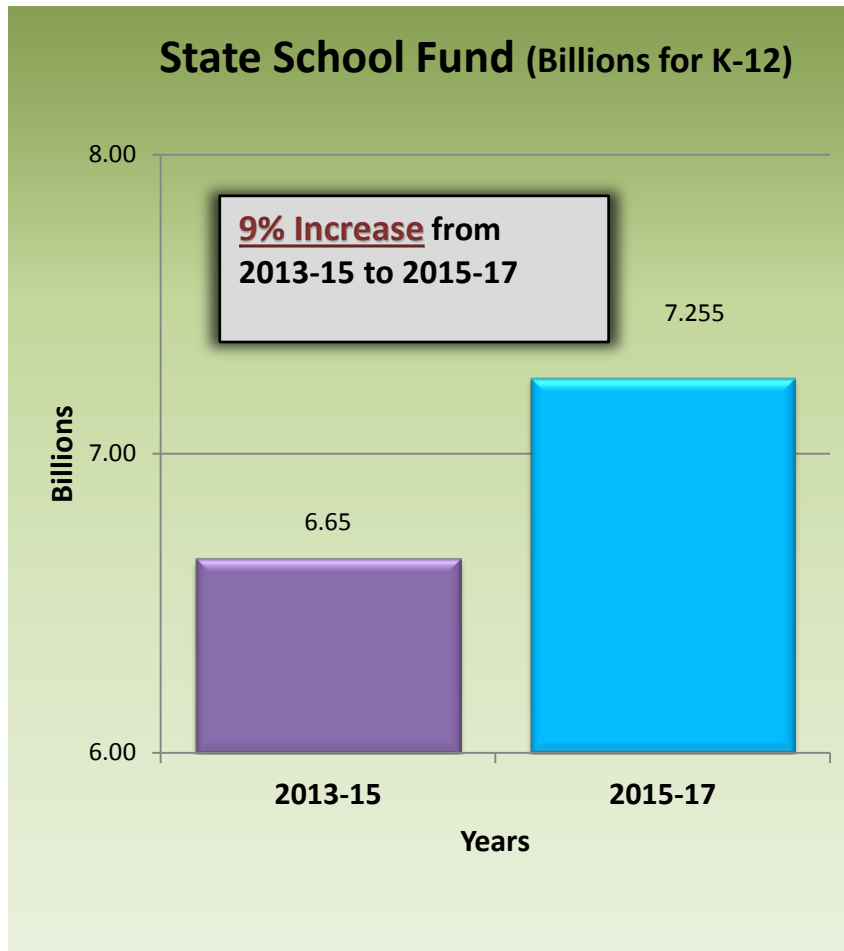
STATE PER STUDENT DISTRIBUTION



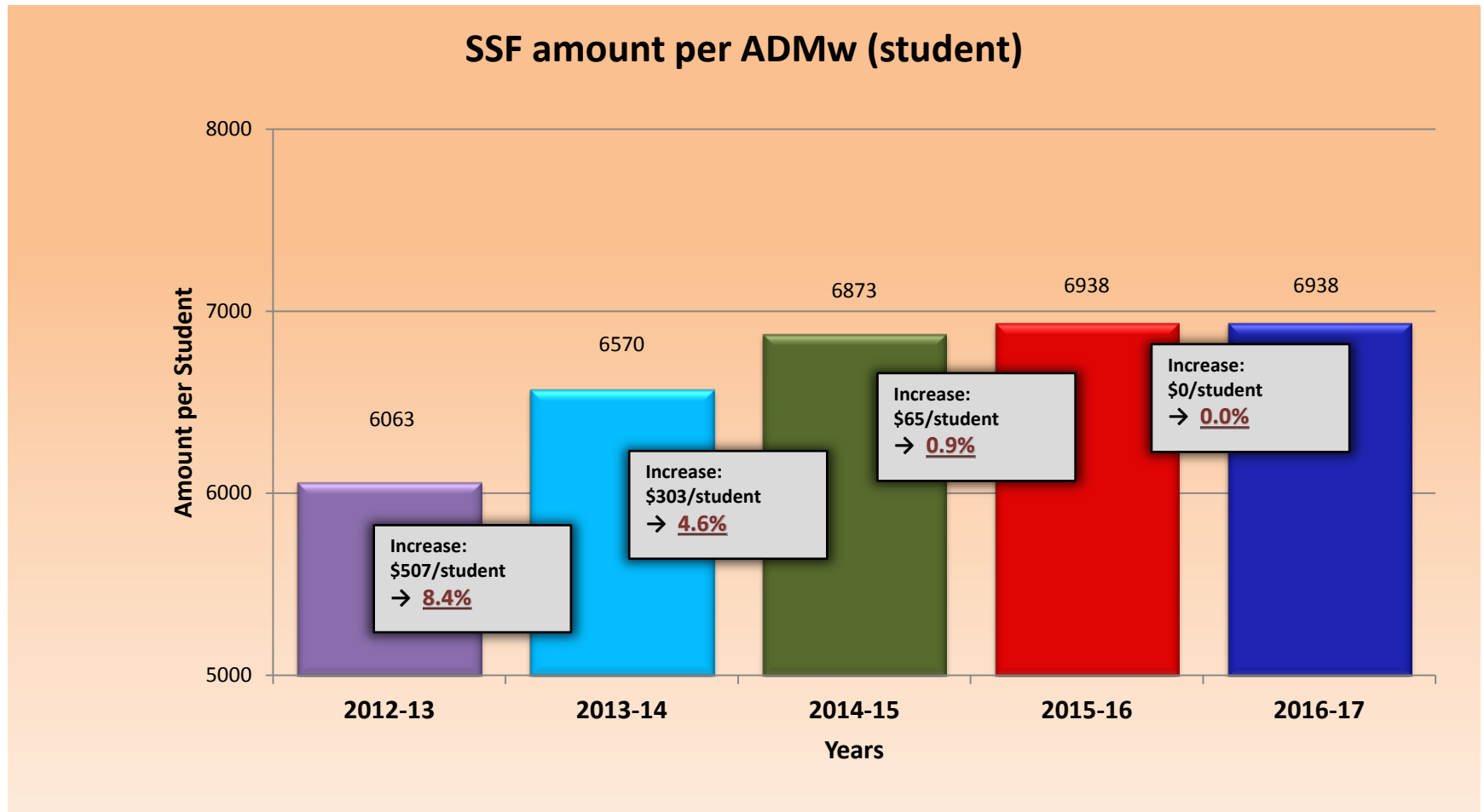
LESS THAN 1% INCREASE PER STUDENT



9% INCREASE IN STATE BIENNIAL <1% STATE DISTRIBUTION PER STUDENT



STATE DISTRIBUTION PER STUDENT FIVE YEAR COMPARISON



REYNOLDS SCHOOL DISTRICT STATE SCHOOL FUND ANNUAL DISTRIBUTION and FUNDING PER STUDENT



**Ways and Means Committee
Community Hearings
April 21, 2015**

**Testimony of Maria Elena Santaella
Oregon Law Center**

Co-Chairs Devlin and Buckley, and Members of the Committee: My name is Maria Elena Santaella and I reside in Hillsboro with my husband and three boys. Thank you for providing an opportunity to testify on behalf of Oregon Law Center, one of the statewide legal aid programs in Oregon. I was born and raised in Washington County and have great deal of family and friends in this community. After graduating from Century High School, I did office work in a local plant nursery and completed my Associates Degree at Portland Community College. For the last six years, I have been employed as legal assistant in the Hillsboro Regional Office that services low-income people living in Washington, Clatsop, Columbia, Tillamook and Yamhill Counties.

My job entails front desk duties such as answering phones and greeting people when they contact the office seeking help. I help some people by referring them to the right government agency or charitable organization. For some, I make an appointment to speak with a lawyer. For others, I ask them to call a housing or public benefits hotline so they can get advice or guidance from someone who has expertise with these types of legal issues. We strive to treat every individual with dignity and respect. Growing up in a single parent home, I know the challenges faced due to lack of money, but especially how hard it is to ask for help.

Working for a non-profit organization, every day I hear about the vast array of problems low-income people face. Many of the people who seek services through the office in Hillsboro speak Spanish, so I feel extremely fortunate that I grew up speaking two languages. One of the biggest issues we see is domestic violence. Our clients are frightened about many issues. They often have children. Our office assists clients with protection orders, custody and divorce. Oftentimes our clients also need help with housing, debts and employment. I can wholeheartedly say that legal aid lawyers provide the highest quality of services. Even when we cannot represent someone, we try to give them some advice, a booklet, or self-help forms and point them in the right direction. Some matters can be resolved with a quick phone call or letter. If the client has to go to court without a lawyer, it helps our clients and the courts when we can at the very least explain the law and identify the types of evidence they must present to a judge. We also have a pro bono program where private attorneys volunteer their time to help clients without charge, including lawyers who work at Intel and Hewlett Packard.

I feel privileged to be a part of the legal aid team because we really help the community where I grew up and the community I care about. My co-workers are some of the most dedicated people I've come across and they genuinely care about their clients. The hardest part about my job is that I have to say no because of lack of resources. We have 14 employees in my office. We had 17 until the cuts in 2011. At the same time, the number of people who are eligible has grown. Our clients' problems are only increasing and are getting worse. That is why I am here today, to ask you to help get additional revenue so we can provide more services to more low-income people in this community and statewide. They need our help. Please support additional funding for legal aid by supporting HB 2329. Thank you.

**Testimony by Wilsonville Mayor Tim Knapp
in Support of SB 129-A:**

**Proposed Legislation Provides Resources to Local
Governments for Industrial Property-Tax Exemption and to
State for Public Education and Economic Development**



For Public Hearing Scheduled on April 21, 2015, Before the
Joint Committee on Ways and Means

**To Co-Chairs Devlin and Buckley, Co-Vice Chairs Johnson and Winters, and
Members of the Committee:**

The City of Wilsonville joins with the League of Oregon Cities and the Oregon Economic Development Association to support SB 129-A. The amended bill appears responsive to concerns both by local governments that exempt certain industrial developments from substantial property taxes using the Strategic Investment Program and by those who seek a greater degree of distribution across the state in support of public education and new resources for economic development in distressed counties.

Two components of the proposed legislation are of greatest interest to Wilsonville:

- \$7 million for the agricultural experiment station and branch stations
- \$5 million for the Oregon State University Extension Service

Residents and businesses of Wilsonville and adjacent farm lands of French Prairie utilize the skilled expertise and research and agricultural extension services provided by Oregon State University's North Willamette Research & Extension Center. During the Great Recession, funds to OSU's agricultural research and extension center programs were cut. However, these programs benefit both the "ag" sector of the economy that weathered the recession better than other sectors and local-area residents who seek a greater degree of sustainability to grow and process/can their own foods and vegetables.

The City of Wilsonville respectfully urges a "Do Pass" vote on SB 129-A by the Joint Committee on Ways and Means. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Tim Knapp, Mayor
City of Wilsonville

**Ways and Means Committee
Community Hearings
April 21, 2015**

**Testimony of Allison Brady
SAFE of Columbia County**

Co-Chairs Devlin and Buckley, and Members of the Committee: My name is Allison Brady and I'm from St. Helens. Thank you for providing an opportunity to testify in support of increased funding for legal aid programs in Oregon. They play a critical role in serving the victims of domestic violence and sexual assault.

I am a domestic and sexual violence victim's advocate at SAFE, which provides safe shelter for individuals fleeing domestic violence, as well as other services to survivors of these traumatizing and complicated crimes. Last year, SAFE provided 3,875 services to 573 of our most vulnerable neighbors.

Legal aid helps the survivors I work with get restraining orders, file for divorce and navigate child custody. They also help with legal issues related to housing, employment, debt and public benefits. Domestic violence and sexual assault create chaos and confusion in every aspect of a survivor's life, and I'm so thankful to be able to refer my clients to legal aid to help make sense of these complex legal issues.

Four years ago, legal aid, SAFE, St. Helens Police Department, Columbia County Mental Health and Community Action Team launched and support the Ruthann Harris-Inman Family Justice Center that provides one-stop services to survivors. In addition to sending two legal aid lawyers to the Center each month, legal aid also gets private attorneys to join them at the center donating their time to also help victims. This service proves vital in my work as it provides an opportunity for my clients to access walk-in services with a skilled attorney to answer questions and get help filling out paperwork.

A legal aid lawyer named Heather Kemper serves on the local Family Law Advisory council. A legal aid lawyer named Robin Selig services on statewide task forces and works with the courts to improve access. Sybil Hebb works with policy makers to improve protections for survivors. All of these efforts combine to help improve our ability to support survivors.

Please increase funding for legal aid so they can provide this invaluable service to more clients. Please support HB 2329. Thank you.

Joint Ways and Means Committee
Testimony of Dana Galaxy, Legal Aid Services of Oregon
April 21, 2015, Portland Community College Rock Creek Campus

Co-chairs Devlin and Buckley, Members of the Committee, my name is Dana Galaxy and I live in Beaverton. I am a member of the Board of Directors of Legal Aid Services of Oregon, where I have proudly served for the last four years, and I am testifying today to thank you for your past support for Legal Aid funding and to ask you to support increased funding for Legal Aid.

Most of our Legal Aid board members are lawyers but one-third of the members come from low-income families and are eligible for Legal Aid. I am one of the client-eligible board members. I came to the United States from Czechoslovakia 26 years ago. Moving to a new country with a different language and culture far from my home had many challenges for me. Although I'm very happy to live here, I've had difficult times through the last 26 years that involved many adjustments to my new country. I am grateful for the support that I received from the community during those difficult times.

I try to give back to my community to repay the support that I received when I needed it. In addition to being on the Legal Aid board, I have worked with the Community Action Agency in Washington County and with Head Start. From my own experiences and from my work with these organizations, I have seen first-hand the needs of low-income families in our communities. A legal needs study in Oregon showed that low-income families are more likely to experience legal problems than higher-income families. These legal problems cause hardship and stress for entire families. When legal aid is able to step in and help, they can improve the lives not only of their individual clients. They can also improve the lives of others around them.

When you stabilize and support the weakest members of our community, you will improve the community itself and make lives better not only for them but for everyone. I strongly believe that every positive step and every dollar towards the great cause of helping the less fortunate is multiplied by tenfold as times goes on. Every little seed grows with supportive surroundings. We are only as strong as our weakest link, so by helping the less fortunate members of our beautiful communities, we are creating self-sufficient and well-adjusted family structures. By helping others you ultimately help yourself and your community. Creating safe communities with well-adjusted members will benefit our county, our state, our nation and ultimately the world!

I love being a Board member for Legal Aid because I have seen firsthand how Legal Aid can improve lives. I love to be a part of Legal Aid, helping our community to become better and stronger, where the lives of all people are valuable and heard.

We are very grateful for the legislature's past and current support for legal aid. Your support has helped us to help many thousands of clients but we are still not meeting the needs in our communities. I am here today to ask you to please support additional funding for Legal Aid along the lines of House Bill 2329. Thank you for allowing me the opportunity to testify today and thank you for your support of Legal Aid funding.

I am a Personal Support Worker for adults with developmental disabilities. The physical and emotional health and safety, a path towards independence, employment readiness and a future less reliant on Medicaid and state support are dependent on direct one on one support services.

Our community deserves capable, dependable, well trained supports for our citizens who have developmental disabilities. These support professions are the foundation for these citizens, particularly those without family and other natural supports. Without our practical guidance and training to address behaviors and specific disabilities, day to day living is not just challenging but impossible for many of our citizens.

By supporting the growth and independence surrounding behaviors and healthy routines, we save taxpayer money by keeping these citizens out of hospitals and the criminal system. These professions are a fundamental part of the movement towards employment of these citizens vs. an eternal dependency on social services. Getting a job is one thing. Keeping it is another. We are the essential behind the scenes players in mentoring our customers in both community living and job readiness and maintenance.

Thank you for considering continued support in this field and supporting a competitive wage for Personal Support Workers, Behavioral Consultants and other direct supports that foster independence for adults with developmental disabilities. By supporting sustainable wages, the state creates a competitive, educated, dependable and long term/ low turnover work force that can be the quiet, steady backbone of progress in our community.

Thank You,

Stephanie Merrill

From: [Madeleine Toombs](#)
To: [waysandmeans budget](#)
Subject: Development of over 100 Oregonians with intellectual disabilities
Date: Monday, April 27, 2015 3:18:34 PM

503-481-0032

On 2015-04-27 08:58, Madeleine Toombs wrote:

Hello my name is Mady Toombs and I am a Direct Support Professional for Trellis Inc. Our program serves approximately 100 Oregonians with developmental and intellectual disabilities. This number includes those we work with to find employment in their community. I am one of 10 direct support professionals who provide care and support for 4 individuals in the Portland Metro area.

I have been working for Trellis Inc for 4 years and feel that I have the compassion and energy to individually care and prompt my four weekly clients. I value my work and consider myself a dedicated employee who deserves a fair wage increase of \$15.00 an hour.

I also am concerned about the 4% rate increase for non bargained agencies as proposed to the DHS Policy Option Package.

The impact this increase will have on Trellis is far reaching- from those who are employed to the clients we provide supports to and their families. The crisis of retention and recruitment of employees has reached a level within our organization that cannot be sustained. Retention of employees has become a threatening concern. The bottom line in this case results with those who we serve who are suffering the most.

Thank you for considering this request.

Mady Toombs
Direct Supports
503-317-8872

From: [Stacey Malstrom](#)
To: [waysandmeans budget](#)
Subject: HB2721 Farm to School
Date: Wednesday, April 22, 2015 8:18:40 AM
Attachments: [HB 2721 one pager.pdf](#)
[BenefitsFactSheet.pdf](#)

Honorable members of the committee,
I attended the hearing at PCC Rock Creek last night, but was unable to give testimony due to the large gathering. Thank you for taking the time to hear from the community and review written testimony as you consider how to finalize Oregon's budget for the next biennium.

I am writing as a lifelong Oregonian, but also as a representative of the farm to school movement nationally. I work for the National Farm to School Network, and I get to hear stories from across the country of farmers who were able to expand their business because of schools purchasing local food and about picky eaters who beg to try eggplant for the first time when they grew it in the garden.

Last year, Oregon school districts spent \$66 million on food. Most of that food came from outside of Oregon. What we know from the current Oregon farm to school grant program is that a relatively small investment can have a big multiplier for the state's economy. In it's first year, \$316,190 in grants helped schools procure more than \$7.5 million in Oregon food.

I'm proud to say that Oregon is a leader in farm to school nationally, but we still have a long way to go. The Oregon farm to school grant program has only reached about 25 school districts in three years. HB2721 will give *all* districts access to these funds and more Oregon farmers and processors consistent buyers for their products.

Nationally, farm to school activities have been shown to increase kids' consumption of fruits and vegetables, increase farmer incomes an average of 5 percent, create new jobs, raise school lunch participation -- which is a key revenue stream for schools -- and transfer healthy eating habits home to families and the community.

A healthy society is built on healthy people and a healthy economy. Farm to school does both of these things. Please fund HB2721, the farm to school bill, to benefit students, farmers and communities all across Oregon.

[Attached please find fact sheets on HB2721 and the benefits of farm to school.]

Thank you,
Stacey Malstrom

--

Stacey Malstrom
Public Relations & Outreach Manager
National Farm to School Network

503.508.7233 (Portland, Ore.)
staceymalstrom@farmtoschool.org



HB 2721-1: FARM TO SCHOOL AND SCHOOL GARDENS

Healthy food for healthy learning... and a healthy economy

Connecting Classrooms, Crops and Cafeterias

Farm to School and School Garden programs work to:

- Create market opportunities for Oregon's farmers, fishers, ranchers and food processors
- Improve youth and adults' knowledge of & attitudes toward agriculture, food and nutrition
- Increase children's consumption of fruits and vegetables and shape life-long healthy eating habits
- Bridge urban-rural divides, and bring Oregon's coastline inland
- Increase community food security by strengthening local food systems

Oregon's Farm to School Program is Working

- Legislature created positions in the Departments of Agriculture and Education in 2007 and 2008 to support farm to school and school garden programs
- Legislature created a grant program in 2011 and expanded it in 2013, to help schools to purchase foods that are produced or processed in Oregon, and to provide "agriculture, food and garden-based education"
- Funds are currently awarded by competitive grants
- Most participating districts want to continue, and new ones want to join
- Farmers and processors like selling to schools but need more stability and a stronger market

Proposed Improvements Based on Lessons Learned

To better serve producers and schools

- Give all districts a fair share of the food funds, based on school lunches served. Districts will still be required to track and report on local purchases
- Allow districts to use the funds for local foods for any school meal programs, not just lunch
- Still award the funds for "agriculture, food and garden-based education" by competitive grants, but let non-profit organizations and commodity commissions also apply
- Expand total funding to \$5.6M to benefit all districts, and to let farmers and processor count on consistent buyers

This investment will directly benefit Oregon farmers and producers, stimulating rural economies, promoting healthy eating, and stemming long-term health care costs.

HB 2721: FARM TO SCHOOL AND SCHOOL GARDENS

Healthy food for healthy learning... and a healthy economy

Districts And Communities All Over Oregon are Benefitting

Twenty-six school districts have received grants so far. Highlights include:

Bend: Piloted “Boat to School” program with fish and shrimp from the Oregon coast, and brought three fishing representatives (Oregon Trawl Commission and Bornstein Seafood) inland for “Boat To School” day. Also worked with the FFA to raise, slaughter, and serve local pork: students learned the business, agricultural, and culinary side of their project from “pork to fork” and the district is able to serve local food.

Clatskanie: Using a Youth Advocates 4 Health program where teens are trained on gardening, nutrition, and food safety. Teens serve as role models and health advocates in their school and broader community.

Gladstone: Purchased primarily locally-processed breads and cut vegetables. Developed a relationship with a local farm, Livesay Farm, from which the school bought some food and where students went to plant and harvest crops in the fall and in the spring.

Molalla: High School “Culture Club” has focused on creating and cultivating a new giant courtyard garden, which has changed the culture on campus for the better, has transformed teen’s lives, and even decreased vandalism and youth problems in the community.

Roseburg: Purchased over \$3,000 in local berries and also over \$3,000 in (combined) apples and pears, plus Oregon-made breads, and lightly processed corn, beans, and other vegetables. Built a new learning garden and garden program: bought 10 yards of soil, worm bins, wheelbarrows, shovels, irrigation, teaching kits and more.

Sisters: “Feature days” in the cafeterias have highlighted local products, including: Boat to School Day featuring Oregon tuna, Oregon Burger Day featuring Oregon beef, Tillamook cheese, and Franz buns, Local Bagel Day featuring Oregon bagels, and Local Potato day featuring a potato bar.

Other participating districts in the 2013 Pilot and/or 2013-15 Grant:

Beaverton, Bethel, Centennial, Corvallis, Eugene 4J, Gladstone, Hillsboro, Joseph, Lebanon, McMinnville, North Powder, Oakridge, Ontario, Portland, Port Orford, Rainier, Salem-Keizer, Sherman, South Lane, Springfield, Yamhill-Carlton



For more information:

Michelle Markesteyn Ratcliffe
Truitt Family Foods
michellemr@truittfamilyfoods.com
503.460.8060

Kassandra Griffin
Upstream Public Health
kassandra@upstreampublichealth.org
503.238.1799





THE BENEFITS OF FARM TO SCHOOL

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**NATIONAL
FARM to SCHOOL
NETWORK**

GROWING STRONGER TOGETHER

The National Farm to School Network is an information, advocacy and networking hub for communities working to bring local food sourcing and food and agriculture education into school systems and preschools.

Farm to school enriches the connection communities have with fresh, healthy food and local food producers by changing food purchasing and education practices at schools and preschools. Farm to school implementation differs by location but always includes one or more of the following:

Procurement: Local foods are purchased, promoted and served in the cafeteria or as a snack or taste-test.

Education: Students participate in education activities related to agriculture, food, health or nutrition.

School gardens: Students engage in hands-on learning through gardening. Farm to school empowers children and their families to make informed food choices while strengthening the local economy and contributing to vibrant communities.

Farm to school activities provide a variety of benefits to students, parents, schools, communities and food producers. This document outlines those cross-sectoral benefits and cites the research behind them. Farm to school is growing our future leaders, consumers, producers and community members.

Cross-sectoral benefits of farm to school



PUBLIC HEALTH

Farm to school activities provide healthy food options and nutrition and food-based education to influence healthy eating behaviors and healthy lifestyles in children. Through the use of school and community gardens, farm to school can contribute to healthy neighborhoods where communities have a better understanding of how food is grown and how food affects their health and wellness.



ECONOMY

Farm to school provides economic development opportunities to producers (i.e. farmers, ranchers, fishers) and laborers, distributors, processors, cooks and foodservice staff, as well as others who support the local food system.



EDUCATION

Farm to school can support educational outcomes for students by increasing student access to healthy foods in schools and promoting educational activities that help children and families learn about and develop skills related to healthy eating. Farm to school curriculum and experiential activities are also a platform to teach core content areas such as science, math and language arts.



ENVIRONMENT

Farm to school activities can support environmentally sound, sustainable and socially just approaches to food production, processing, packaging, transportation and marketing. Farm to school activities may promote an ecological ethic among participants, develop infrastructure that supports healthy environments and promote agriculture and food distribution practices that mitigate climate change.

Student Health and Achievement

Farm to school is a school-based strategy that focuses on creating a healthy school food environment.¹ Farm to school activities support children's development of healthy eating habits—such as preferences for and consumption of fruits and vegetables—while improving family food security by boosting the quality of school meal programs.²⁻⁵ Key outcomes include:

- Improvement in early childhood and K-12 eating behaviors, including choosing healthier options in the cafeteria; consuming more fruits and vegetables through farm to school meals and at home (+0.99 to +1.3 servings/day); consuming less unhealthy foods and sodas; reducing screen time; and increasing physical activity.⁶⁻³¹
- Increase in knowledge and awareness about gardening, agriculture, healthy eating, local foods and seasonality (in early childhood and K-12 settings).^{7,20-22,26,31-33}
- Demonstrated willingness to try new foods and healthier options (in early childhood and K-12 settings).^{7,20-22,30-33}
- Enhanced overall academic achievement in K-12 settings; provides children with an understanding of agriculture and the environment; and improves life skills, self-esteem, social skills and behavior.³⁴⁻³⁵

Food Service Costs, Revenue, Interest

- Increase in student meal participation from 3 percent to 16 percent (average +9 percent), thus generating increased revenue through school meals programs.^{8-9,20-21,23-25,36}
- Improvements in food service operations, such as increased cafeteria offerings of fruits and vegetables; development of new seasonal recipes; and changes in cafeteria waste management policies.^{8-9,21,23-25,36,37}
- Improvement in food service staff motivation and morale; increase in knowledge and interest in local food preparation and seasonal recipes; and increase in interactions with teachers to strengthen classroom/cafeteria connections.^{7,22,38}

Benefits for Farmers

In general, purchases from local sources increase as farm to school programming matures, with potential local sourcing of up to 50 percent of all produce purchases in season.^{7-9,20,22-23,25,36-37,39}

- Average 5 percent increase in income from farm to school sales for individual farmers.^{7,9,20,22-23,36,39}
- Increase in market diversification; positive relationships with school districts, parents and community members; farmers contracted to plant crops for schools; opportunities to explore processing and preservation methods for institutional markets; establishment of grower collaboratives or cooperatives to supply institutional markets.³⁶⁻³⁷



Community and Economy

- Increase in community awareness and interest about purchasing local foods and foods served in school cafeterias.^{7,22}
- Increase in economic activity. In one study, each dollar invested in farm to school stimulated an additional \$2.16 of local economic activity.⁴⁰
- Strengthened connections within the state's food economy.⁴⁰
- Improved household food security.⁴⁰
- Creation and maintenance of jobs; for every job created by school districts purchasing local foods, additional economic activity would create another 1.67 jobs.⁴⁰

Teachers





















- Positive changes in teachers' diets and lifestyles; positive attitudes about integrating farm to school related information in curriculum.^{7,20-22,30}

Parents

- Increase in ability and interest in incorporating healthier foods in family diets and guiding children in early childhood and K-12 age groups to make healthier choices; positive changes in shopping patterns reflecting healthy and local foods.^{7,20,22,27,33}
- Increase in knowledge among parents of young children about farmers' markets in the area.³³
- Increase among young children in asking their families to make healthier purchases.³³

Summary of Farm to School Benefits

The core elements of farm to school (local procurement, school gardens, food and farm related education) provide for unique crosssectoral outcomes and linkages in public health, community economic development, education and environmental quality.

Population	Benefits	Cross-sector Benefits
Students		
Fruit and vegetable consumption	Increased +0.99 to +1.3 servings/ day	Public Health 
Physical activity	Reduced screen time and increased physical activity	Public Health 
Food-system awareness	Increased knowledge regarding: gardening, agriculture, healthy food, local food, seasonality	Public Health 
Food choices	Willingness to try new and healthy food; choosing healthier options in the cafeteria and at home	Public Health  Education  Environmental Quality 
Academic achievement	Overall improvement (K-12)	Education 
Behavior	Improved life skills, self-esteem and social skills	Education 
Schools		
Meal participation	Average increase of 9% (range 3% to 16%)	Public Health  Economic Development 
Local Sourcing	Up to 50% of all produce purchases in season	Economic Development  Environmental Quality 
Improved cafeteria operations	Increased offerings of fruits and vegetables, new seasonal recipes, new waste management policies	Public Health 
Food service staff	Improved morale, increased knowledge	Education  Economic Development 
Teachers	Positive diet and lifestyle changes	Public Health 
Farmers		
Income	Average increase of 5%	Economic Development 
Markets	Increased diversification and new opportunities	Economic Development 
Community		
Economy	\$2.16 economic activity generated for every \$1 spent	Economic Development 
Job creation	Each new farm to school job contributes to the creation of additional 1.67 jobs	Economic Development 
Families	Increased food security and positive diet changes	Public Health 

References:

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4/21/15 Ways & Means Committee Hearing

Kathryn Harrington, Metro Councilor, District 4

I am here today representing the broad array of businesses, non-profits, and local governments that make up the Oregon Brownfields Coalition. (Please see the one-pager provided for a full member list and policy objectives.)

As a Metro Councilor, I am proud of the role that Metro has played in bringing this group together to make the best use of the land we have so that we can realize our shared goals under Oregon's land use law.

I am even prouder that this coalition has continued to expand around the state, which demonstrates that brownfields pose a significant challenge in all communities, large and small.

The Statewide Brownfields Program at Business Oregon is critical to addressing this problem. In many cases, it is the only source of cleanup money available to local communities.

- In Washington County, this program helped clear up an old Sherwood tannery that the county had foreclosed on, making it commercially viable once again.
- In communities that have received EPA assessment funds, such as Tigard and Beaverton, the Brownfields Program is the only way for them to actually clean up the contamination they have identified.
- In Oregon City, the program has supported early phase environmental work at Willamette Falls, and will be a critical partner for asbestos removal so the public can access the falls again.

These stories play out around the entire state, where 51 brownfields redevelopment projects have leveraged \$116 for each dollar spent, creating a total of 8900 jobs and \$19 million in tax revenue for the state.

But this only scratches the surface. Statewide, 21,700 acres are unproductive brownfields, an area equivalent to the states entire vineyard area or the City of Bend. 75% of the lands are zoned industrial, and are critical for job creation.

The Coalition is very happy to see that the Governor's budget proposes \$7 million to recapitalize the brownfield fund. That said, the Oregon Brownfields Coalition believes this investment should be increased.

Demand for financing to address assessment and cleanup of contaminated industrial/employment properties is steadily increasing at a time of tight commercial lending. The Brownfields Redevelopment Fund (BRF) is the lender of last resort yet, as of November 30, 2014, only \$459,862 remains unobligated and current demand for financing exceeds \$10.9 million.

The fund has been capitalized over the past ten years at just over \$9.5 million. The last capitalization with lottery revenue bond funds occurred in the 2005-07 biennium. Adjusting for inflation, restoring the fund to comparable capacity in today's dollars would mean an additional \$12 million. We believe this is the right target for this year's budget.

The Oregon Brownfields Coalition is pursuing a variety of new tools to help communities unlock the economic potential of neglected brownfields, including tax incentives and land bank authority. However, none of this can be effective without an effective brownfields program. We respectfully urge the committee to consider our request for recapitalization.



OREGON BROWNFIELDS COALITION

ORGANIZATIONAL COALITION MEMBERS AS OF FEBRUARY 2015

ASSOCIATION OF OREGON COUNTIES
LEAGUE OF OREGON CITIES
OREGON PUBLIC PORTS ASSOCIATION
CITIES OF BEAVERTON, BEND, EUGENE,
LINCOLN CITY, PORTLAND, SALEM,
SPRINGFIELD AND TIGARD
CLACKAMAS COUNTY
MULTNOMAH COUNTY
WASHINGTON COUNTY
METRO
PORT OF PORTLAND
BUSINESS OREGON
OREGON DEPT. OF ENVIRONMENTAL
QUALITY
OREGON HEALTH AUTHORITY
REGIONAL SOLUTIONS CENTER
US EPA
1000 FRIENDS OF OREGON
AUDUBON SOCIETY OF PORTLAND
BEYOND TOXICS
COMMUNITY HOUSING FUND
GROUNDWORK PORTLAND
NEIGHBORHOOD PARTNERSHIPS
OREGON ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE
TASK FORCE
OREGON OPPORTUNITY NETWORK
UPSTREAM PUBLIC HEALTH
VERDE
ASSOCIATED OREGON INDUSTRIES
COLUMBIA CORRIDOR ASSOCIATION
NORTHWEST ENVIRONMENTAL
BUSINESS COUNCIL
OREGON BUSINESS ASSOCIATION
OREGON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
ASSOCIATION
OREGON STATE BUILDING &
CONSTRUCTION TRADES COUNCIL
OREGON STATE CHAMBER OF
COMMERCE
INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF
SHOPPING CENTERS
CLACKAMAS COUNTY BUSINESS
ALLIANCE
PORTLAND BUSINESS ALLIANCE
WESTSIDE ECONOMIC ALLIANCE
PORTLAND STATE UNIVERSITY

BROWNFIELDS: POLLUTED SITES, NEW HOPE

Oregon is burdened by thousands of polluted sites called brownfields. Ranging in size from large factory sites to small former gas stations and dry cleaners, over 13,000 brownfields are scattered throughout the state – only 35 percent of which have been assessed or cleaned up.

Nearly every Oregonian has a brownfield in their community. They are the vacant lots we drive by daily, the piles of polluted dirt behind rusting chain link fences, the abandoned storefronts blighting our main streets.

Brownfields must be cleaned up before they can be reused for jobs, housing and other community needs. However, cleanup is expensive. Current owners and potential developers are required to pay, even though the original polluters may have gone bankrupt, been acquired by other companies or disappeared. Landowners interested in cleanup often face a time-consuming and expensive maze of permits, regulations and inspections. Many landowners and developers steer clear of known or potential brownfields because the costs and risks are too high to justify action.

Government action to help get brownfields cleaned up could unlock billions of dollars of economic activity. The state's small Brownfields Redevelopment Fund has helped create \$2.3 billion in economic activity with relatively minimal investment. But so far the fund has barely scratched the surface of Oregon's brownfield challenge.

SOLUTIONS TO OREGON'S BROWNFIELD CHALLENGE

The Oregon Brownfields Coalition has this goal: find collaborative strategies to help turn these liabilities into community assets quickly and equitably. The members of the Coalition represent public, private and nonprofit partners and a wide range of disparate interests. But we share a common goal with respect to this critical challenge. Brownfields are holding our communities and our economy back. It's time to take action to help communities all over Oregon.

The Coalition proposes these solutions in the 2015 legislative session:

- **Recapitalize the state Brownfields Redevelopment Fund**, as proposed in the Governor's budget.
- Allow local communities to create **land banks** and offer **tax abatements** for brownfield cleanup and redevelopment.
- Create **state tax credits** for brownfield redevelopment.

We look forward to working with you to solve Oregon's brownfield challenge.

CONTACT

Oregon Brownfields Coalition
503-797-1562
oregonmetro.gov/brownfields



OREGON BROWNFIELDS COALITION

2015 LEGISLATIVE PROPOSAL: MORE DETAILS

Every brownfield is different. It is important to have a range of tools to solve Oregon's brownfield challenge. As such, the Brownfields Coalition is respectfully presenting a three-part legislative proposal for the 2015 Oregon Legislature. In addition to recapitalizing the state Brownfield Fund, here are the strategies the Coalition is recommending.

LAND BANKS (HB 2734): COMMUNITY CREATED, COMMUNITY DRIVEN

A land bank is a locally-created public authority that can acquire, hold, manage and transfer property to new owners. Land banks aim to return brownfield sites neglected by the open market back into productive use. They do this by:

- acquiring titles to contaminated, vacant, or blighted properties
- facilitating remediation and/or site improvements to eliminate barriers to redevelopment
- transferring properties to owners who will develop the property in a way that supports community priorities.

A land bank works in cooperation with local governments, non-profits, community organizations, lenders, and property developers to leverage available resources to clean up contaminated properties.

How would land banks benefit Oregon communities? Local land banks let the community create a streamlined process to acquire, clean up and redevelop brownfields throughout the state. By making the process faster, easier and cheaper, communities can more easily return brownfields to productive use, in a way that reflects their own values.

BROWNFIELD TAX ABATEMENTS (HB 2734): LOCAL SOLUTIONS MAKE THINGS HAPPEN

Brownfield tax abatements are partial property tax exclusions for specified improvements to brownfields. They can offset risks and costs of brownfield cleanup, especially for sites that would otherwise remain polluted. Abatements can:

- be targeted to specific reinvestment areas
- have a set of conditions attached for participation
- be enacted at the discretion of the local jurisdiction
- offer a new benefit to non-profit development organizations

A tax abatement program for brownfields would focus on work done to assess a property's current contamination and for any cleanup done by the owner. No abatement would be given for any subsequent redevelopment on the property.

How would a tax abatement benefit Oregon communities? A tax abatement program would give local control to municipalities to provide incentives for brownfield remediation and redevelopment. Properties that don't pencil out for redevelopment could potentially become feasible to property owners and industrial developers much sooner.

BROWNFIELD TAX CREDIT (HB 2289): STATE LEADERSHIP CREATES JOBS

A brownfield tax credit would allow property owners and developers to reduce income taxes by a percentage of the documented qualifying costs of brownfield cleanup. This incentive can help offset risks and costs of brownfield cleanup, especially for sites that would otherwise remain polluted. The tax credit can:

- apply to prospective purchasers or non-responsible owners (public, private, non-profit)
- have an annual program cap
- require property owners to be enrolled in a DEQ cleanup program
- require a contribution of cleanup costs from the owner

A tax credit program for brownfields would focus on any work done to assess and cleanup properties, including assessment, demolition, cleanup, and disposal.

How would a tax credit benefit Oregon communities? A tax credit would give a statewide incentive to property owners and developers that might not explore development on known brownfields. The credit could tilt the development feasibility of key industrial and employment sites, as well as town center and main street redevelopment opportunities statewide. Similar tax credits in other states have created thousands of jobs with relatively little state investment.

From: [Susan Matt Hall](#)
To: [waysandmeans budget](#)
Subject: Ways and Means Testimonial for Senate Bill 657
Date: Friday, April 24, 2015 2:31:03 PM
Attachments: [Ways and Means Committee - Support Bill 657.docx](#)

Dear Ways and Means Committee,

I would like to submit my testimonial to support Senate Bill 657 via written form since I did not get a chance to speak at the committee meeting held at PCC Rock Creek on 4/21/15. I have attached my testimonial in a Word document. Please let me know if you have any questions. Thank you for allowing me to share my testimonial through written submission.

Sincerely,

Susan Hall
Hall Brands LLC
www.chedzsnacks.com
<https://facebook.com/hallbrandsllc>
503-502-4002

From: [Gitta Grether-Sweeney](#)
To: [waysandmeans budget](#)
Subject: Farm to School Bill 2721
Date: Thursday, April 23, 2015 6:55:11 PM

**Oregon Ways and Means Committee
April 21, 2015 Budget Hearing
PCC Event Center**

Co -Chairs Buckley and Devlin and members of the committee, my name is Gitta Grether-Sweeney and I am the Director of Nutrition Services at Portland Public Schools. We serve over 35,000 meals per day to our students. I am here today to testify in favor of House Bill 2721 funding for Farm to School and School Gardens.

House Bill 2721 would grow an existing competitive grant program from \$1.3 million dollars and 19 school districts to \$5.6 million dollars assisting all school districts in the state to purchase Oregon products.

Since 2008 Portland Public Schools has participated in piloting this concept prior to the Oregon legislature creating the current Farm to School Grant program. Evaluation shows that a little state investment has a huge impact on schools purchasing Oregon products.

Portland received \$215,000 dollars in grant funding and we have in turn spent \$1.5 million dollars on Oregon products. With the funding we have been able to purchase foods such as 100% grass fed beef from Carman Ranch, watermelon from Pollock and Sons Farms, apples and pears from Kiyokawa Family Orchards and potatoes from Baggenstos Farms. In addition, we have worked with local food producers to purchase processed foods such as vegetarian chili from Truitt Family Foods, dressings from Heritage Foods and marinara from Harry's Fine Foods. Our purchases of Oregon products have grown by nearly 30% over the life of the grant program.

House Bill 2721 would provide \$5 million dollars for two years which is about 5 cents per meal. This relatively small investment by the state will provide a significant return in terms of economic impact and school food dollars that are staying in Oregon! Please pass this bill with full funding so that we can put Oregon foods on the plates of all our children.

Thank you-

Gitta Grether-Sweeney, MS, RDN

Director, [Nutrition Services](#)

Portland Public Schools

501 N. Dixon Street

Portland, OR 97227

503.916.3397

Fax: 503.916.3420

gsweeney@pps.net

[Find us on Facebook](#)

Educating palates, inspiring culinary curiosity, and nourishing the health of the community through delicious, nutrient-rich school meals.

From: [Kenji Yamasaki, Cornforth Consultants](#)
To: [waysandmeans budget](#)
Cc: [Mike Meyer, Cornforth Consultants](#)
Subject: Levee Funding
Date: Thursday, April 23, 2015 1:32:55 PM

April 23, 2015

Joint Committee on Ways and Means
Oregon State Legislature
Salem, Oregon

Dear Members of the Joint Committee on Ways and Means:

I was at the public hearing held on the evening of April 21, 2015 at Portland Community College Rock Creek Campus. I signed up to speak in support of levee funding but unfortunately time ran out before it was my turn to speak. Therefore, as suggested by Senator Devlin, I am submitting a statement by email.

My name is Kenji Yamasaki. I am a soil engineer and work for a consulting engineering company called Cornforth Consultants located in Tigard. We do a lot of work related to safety of levees, including the studies currently going on at Peninsula Drainage Districts #1 and 2 in North Portland, which protect the Expo Center, Portland International Speedway, Delta Park, Portland Meadows, and surrounding areas from flooding. Today, I represent the American Council of Engineering Companies of Oregon to voice support for, and ask for your support of, Special Public Works Fund for levee inspection and repair. Currently, \$7 million are allocated for this purpose, which is part of the budget for Oregon Business Development Department, or Business Oregon.

This year marks the 10th anniversary of Hurricane Katrina, which took a heavy toll on lives and property, and reminded us of the importance of levee safety. The American Council of Engineering Companies of Oregon and its member companies strongly support the Special Public Works Fund for levees and Senate Bill 306, which permits Oregon Infrastructure Finance Authority to provide financial assistance for levee projects. Levee safety is important not only for the welfare of the public, but to retain and attract businesses in lands protected by levees, which is an issue not just around Portland but throughout the state of Oregon. Thank you very much.

Sincerely,

Kenji Yamasaki, P.E.

Kenji Yamasaki, P.E. | Senior Associate Engineer

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CORNFORTH CONSULTANTS, INC.



April 22, 2015

Ways and Means Joint Committee
Committee Services Offices
900 Court Street, NE, Room 453
Salem, Oregon 97301

RE: Testimony in Support of Business Oregon

Committee Chairs Senator Devlin and Representative Buckley, I'm writing to voice my support to the budget request by Business Oregon. Business Oregon is a key strategic partner with the City of Hillsboro for economic development and job creation and retention.

The City of Hillsboro works closely with Business Oregon in business retention and expansion, working with their Portland Metro Regional Development Officer (RDO). The RDO's collaborate with local economic development organizations to bring the resources of the state to job retention and expansion projects.

Another important partnership for business development with the state is on international business development. Hillsboro's high technology cluster, anchored by Intel, has over a dozen Japanese supplier firms in the city. We recently returned from Japan on a mission led by Business Oregon to call on our existing companies and also to meet in individual meetings and in a business seminar to present Hillsboro and Oregon as a place to locate and grow new investment. The Japan Representative Office is a key asset for Oregon in Japan, and frankly our successes in Japan would not be possible without that office.

Hillsboro has a significant portion of the regions, and in fact the states, inventory of vacant industrial land for large single users to locate new manufacturing facilities. We are creating a tool box for infrastructure in our North Hillsboro Industrial Area and the Special Public Works Fund is one of the tools we are discussing to be in that tool box. As such, we support the recapitalization of the SPWF.

Finally, I'd like to express the City's Support for the Regional Solutions Center (RSC). Another example of a partnership with the State for economic development is in our North Hillsboro Industrial Area. Through the partnership with the RSC, we were able to recertified one of our key industrial sites as shovel ready. The RSC brought together multiple state regulatory agencies, and also a few federal ones, to accomplish this task in a collaborative and expeditious way.

We work closely with Business Oregon and that partnership has real benefits to Hillsboro and the state's economy through job creation and tax revenue to support vital public services. We look forward to continuing that partnership with a vital and robust state economic development agency.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mark Clemons', with a long, sweeping horizontal line extending to the right.

Mark Clemons, Economic Development Director
City of Hillsboro

From: [Tim Lenihan](#)
To: [waysandmeans budget](#)
Subject: Roadshow Comments- PCC
Date: Thursday, April 23, 2015 7:16:42 AM

I recently attended the roadshow on the PCC Rock Creek Campus. I was prepared to speak opposing the current proposal for the ODFW budget.

ODFW has engaged in several decision making challenges that has continually decreased opportunity for anglers. The exclusion area of Youngs bay being almost doubled in size from its proposal and exceeding their own statutory description, the barbed hook ban along the Columbia with an associated Columbia River Tax imposition, reduction of rivers in the Tillamook Basin receiving fish, the unbalanced Board representation heavily weighted towards commercial fishing even though they make up less than 10% of the budget and don't produce 10% of the economic stimulus sport anglers do and ultimately their lack of progression towards hatchery improvements.

I have enclosed a letter I recently submitted to Director Melcher. It describes in more detail my comments.

I would also like to address more specifically the over-weighted balance of the ODFW Board. Announced yesterday was the Governor's appointment of Mr. Bruce Buckmaster. An extremely over-weighted committee in favor commercial fishing was just toppled over in their favor. How can anyone look at this appointment and feel this is even good for Oregon? His already unbalanced approach towards fish related politics seems it should have prevented him from being considered. Oregon sport angling provides 660 million dollars into Oregon's economy annually. Oregon commercial fleets provide considerably less than half of that. Yet our committees and boards are weighted 80% or more towards commercial harvest. Can you explain that to me? Surely the majority of funders (sport anglers) should have at least an equal representation.

ODFW members as a whole produce a lot of work that is a benefit for the State of Oregon and its visitors. It should be upon the entire state to help support their mission as the entire state benefits from their work. The unbalanced system of having licensees pay for the work is not sustainable and should not be supported. Licensees should not have to pay for commercial operations. The general public should help pay for the benefits of enjoying wildlife viewing areas, fish spawning areas and the economic benefit all Oregonians receive through the work of ODFW.

Representative Susan McLain- you came to my home during your campaign and asked what was important to me as a voter. THIS IS IMPORTANT to all of us!

Tim Lenihan
1094 SE Wenlock Ave
Hillsboro, OR 97123

April 22nd, 2015

To the Members of the Ways and Means Committee,

Thank you very much for the opportunity to share my experience with you this evening. My name is Jessie Chorlton, and I am a Kindergarten teacher from Barnes Elementary School in Beaverton; where 75% of our students are living in poverty. We are located just two blocks east of the Nike World Headquarters.

I am here today to ask for the adequate and stable funding our schools need in order to insure the success of all our students. We would like to believe that education is the great equalizer in our society. However, the current reality perpetuates the inequities of the children that walk through our doors.

Oregon has the third largest class size in the nation. Over the past decade, class size has increased by nearly 20% just in the elementary grades. When I began teaching in 2008, I had around 22 students in my class. I now have 28. Kindergarten classes used to have a full time aide and now we have only one hour of support, in some schools.

A metaphor for the reality that teachers are now facing involves my kindergarten classroom carpet. When I started teaching all 22 of my students had a spot on the carpet. Our carpet is a place to learn and connect with their peers. After a couple years, I no longer had the space to fit all my students and they would take turns being left off the carpet. As teachers, we naturally have been making things work under circumstances like this for way too long. In the case of the carpet, I wrote a grant for a new carpet that was big enough for my growing number of students because all students deserve a place to learn and to belong. I have written multiple grants every year just to be able to fund the materials we need to be successful.

What makes this reality even more of a challenge is that every year we have students entering Kindergarten who haven't been screened for emotional and learning disabilities. In the fall, it is common to have several students with severe enough behavioral needs to require frequent classroom evacuations. Our students with sensory issues struggle profoundly everyday in classes of 27 other 5 year olds.

In addition, it has been shown that students from poverty exhibit symptoms similar to that of Post Traumatic Stress Disorder. One child's disruption can trigger other students' trauma. Once triggered, these students can themselves cause disruptions. This is only made worse by the fact that our class sizes are so large and we do not have the funding for an adequate number of counselors, psychologists, and other support staff.

Many of our students are also highly impacted by severe poverty. Just yesterday, I was trying to find shoes for one of my students whose toes were sticking out of his shoes. We work toward college and career readiness, but the reality for our students is that every year, my fellow Kindergarten teacher takes groups of students to visit Portland State University or Lewis and Clark College to show them what we mean when we say "College and Career Ready" because no one in their family has been to college.

The 7.2 billion dollar budget is far below of what we need to put us on the trajectory to get our funding level to the average of U.S. schools.

When I heard the news that this budget passed, I expected candid cameras to walk in. When they didn't, I was devastated for my students. I thought to myself, "Not again. Not another year of cuts".

I work with some of the most inspirational, brilliant and committed educators, who are champions for the students they teach everyday. I am truly blessed. If you give us the support we need, meaning if you fund our schools adequately, we can help our students. We can make a difference. So, can we count on your support to provide the stable and adequate funding our students need to be successful?

Thank you,
Jessie Chorlton
Barnes Elementary School
Beaverton School District

From: [Ruth Shelly](#)
To: [waysandmeans budget](#)
Subject: Testimony delivered at the April 21 road show
Date: Wednesday, April 22, 2015 10:46:07 AM

Thank you for entering my testimony from last night into the record.

Testimony for the Ways and Means Committee; April 21, 2015

Co-Chairs Devlin and Buckley, and members of the Ways and Means Committee, thank you for the opportunity to testify. My name is Ruth Shelly, and I'm here to support SB 819 and SB 820, which would provide more equitable funding to public charter schools, and offer those schools options to give priority to underserved students.

Two years ago, I sought the position of Executive Director at Portland Children's Museum, specifically because the Museum includes a K-5 public charter school. This is true innovation, I thought, to include both formal and informal education under one roof.

I was not disappointed. The teachers at our Opal School are dedicated and passionate about providing the best possible education to our students, who thrive. Every year, our teachers and researchers share their innovation in education with hundreds of their colleagues from across the state, who come to our campus for professional development workshops and symposia.

But every year, as an administrator, I face the harsh reality of a deficit budget, trying to cut classroom materials, deferring maintenance, and denying our teachers raises again because charter schools receive only a fraction—as little as 55%—of the funding that goes to their neighborhood school counterparts.

Yet charter schools are public schools, held to the same educational standards and taking the same tests, at up to \$5000 less per student.

Please let the money allocated for every public school student follow the child to the school that will serve their interests best, whether that is a charter school or their local neighborhood school. This is a matter of equity, of fairness, and critically important to support innovation in elementary education in our great state.

Unlike most of my fellow citizens here tonight, I'm not requesting more money on behalf of charter schools. The money per student is already in the budget. I'm only asking that charter school students receive 95% of their per student allocation compared to neighborhood schools, not as little as the 55% we currently receive.

Thank you.

Ruth Shelly *Executive Director*
rshelly@portlandcm.org | 503.471.9901

portland children's museum

4015 SW Canyon Road, Portland, Oregon 97221

www.portlandcm.org | 503.223.6500

CIRCUS ZIRKUS | [January 31-May 31, 2015](#)

Come one, come all to Portland Children's Museum, where our newest feature exhibit takes visitors on a whimsical trip to the circus. [Learn more>>](#)

OUTLINE FOR PROVIDING CLIENT TESTIMONY:

PCC Small Business Development Center

Mike Kelsay, MBA, CGBP

Colleen Wright

Noah Brockman, MBA, CGBP

Oregon SBDC Network Capital Access Team Lead

PCC Small Business Development Center

(SBDC's GROW OREGON Program)

Good evening folks, Co-Chairs Devin and Buckley & the Joint Committee
I want to thank you for supporting the Oregon SBDC network in the past,

I am Michael Morrow, Founder and Creative Spirit behind Nutcase helmets. We are designers of super graphic multi-sport helmets for Bike, Skate, Water, Snow and Motor Sports. We design, produce and sell helmets in 35 Countries, and are currently in our 9th year of existence. We maintain 3 warehouses - Portland, Vancouver BC, and Rotterdam, Netherlands. We have been growing at an average rate of 30-40 percent per year since we began. My role in our business is CEO and creative Willy Wonka guy, or Yes Ma'am to my wifey and the real Boss, Mrs. Nutcase.

as part of the GROW Oregon Program

"We first came to the SBDC almost exactly 2 years ago. At that time our business was growing quite rapidly but with little to no marketing analysis and direction. We hired our first Marketing director and began working with SBDC on Audience Profiles for our brand marketing & product design efforts. This helped us target our new product development and design ideas into successful new programs that have enhanced our sales."

the SBDC GROW Oregon Program

"With those audience profiles we were also aided by Mike and Noah in creating a SEO strategy to optimize our website traffic. This has greatly enhanced our digital marketing efforts, where we focus most of our marketing efforts. We also use this marketing information to drive our growth through our International distribution partners, who maintain our brand website in their country."

#4 - GM 5

"Since that first project in April 2013 our brand has grown 50% and hired 4 new employees. Obviously, not all due to SBDC but their work has contributed to our effectiveness in many marketing efforts, and we are currently engaging SBDC again for a Phase 2 of SEO and Website optimization to improve again our overall performance."

and the GROW Oregon Program

Overall, the SBDC has been a great partner with Nutcase in helping us operate our business effectively and plan for our rapid growth in a professional and adaptable manner. We very much respect the work they do, have thoroughly enjoyed working with Mike and Noah, and look forward to racking up more wins with the help of the SBDC.

Thank you.

and have a Nutty day!
2 minutes.

I encourage you to continue supporting the GROW Oregon Program, by approving the \$200,000 Policy option for the next biennium.

LIMITING HOURS

for Home Health Care workers

All rules do not fit every individual's needs.

I have a client/daughter that is 24/7 care. Functions at a 12- 24 month, with medical, behavioral problems and many more conditions.

I would love to share the caregiving. For 25 years I have had 2 jobs one part time and the other being a caregiver more than full time.....it is a job every minute of my day.

There is many things wrong with the limited hours that you are purposing. I feel that you need to take by case. I was under the belief that was why we have Personal Agents.

In my experience my client/daughter after 8 years of being at ARC after school program{ hours opened until 6:00pm at night} was pushed out when she turned 21 and out of school because "she is to difficult" We started Danville from 8:00 am to 4:00 pm two days a week then moved it to three days once she became adjusted to the change. Danville went and adapted the program for my clients/daughter needs and tolerance. This was perfect for us because my client/ daughter was able to take Tri Met from Danville to my work and when I was finished we would go home.....

Due to cuts and hiring staff Danville closed September 2014. We are trying new programs and still have not found the right fit.

In January 2014 my client/daughter started to have medical problems that she became unable to stand, walk she became dead weight. At this point we had to have a in home caregiver so I could still work. We could only find an agency they "guarantied" I would have a person their so I can work. This guaranty was just hot air. Agencies are having a difficult time finding caregivers.

Problems I had with in home agency caregivers: NO CALL, NO SHOW....agency has no one to send out...I stay home I can't go to my self-employed part time job.

Caregivers that show up late.....up to 2 hours late...

Not taking care of the client... get out of bed, dressed etc.

Not giving medication Eating and drinking my food

Going through my personal stuff...{House}... Now I have all doors locked and had to get a big safe to put all personal papers in.

Agency not supporting you as a client and telling you that the hours you have are hard to fill and they are trying with no luck....

Agent caregiver sitting in the same room with the client while the client is sitting in a huge puddle of urine.

When you do get a good caregiver they leave for a better job with higher pay.

DAMAGES: Urine and BM soaked family room rug, urine soaked love seat, recliner chairs. I am safe to say everything is now urine soaked. I have been able to keep my house for 24 years clean....Now you walk in and you know there is an incontinent person that lives here.

them...When I got home I could smell something and to my surprise the washer was full of washed disposable diaper and the dryer was brown with a load of brown clothes, disposable diaper and wipes. It took me all night to clean and I still cannot get the smell out. Even with a sign taped on the washer they still run loads.....

Client has a hard bra size and are very expensive. Caregivers wash and dry bras which ruin them. There goes another \$68-\$70.

Client's was not watched or checked on and a full tippy cup of red juice was spilled and left. When I got home I had to clean it up... Now between the urine and pop we had to get a new mattress.

I could go on with many more experiences. I will say that since I have had in home care I am thousands of dollars just in damages.

It is very hard to get caregivers and with new rules that limit the good caregivers this only makes it impossible. If companies can't keep good staff how do you expect us families to do it? We are the ones that fill that hole. Even now in 2015 I am working for FREE.....

Ways and Means Hearing -Portland Rock Creek

April 21, 2015

Co-Chairs Buckley and Devlin:

My name is Alice Hamilton and I am a Certified Pediatric Nurse Practitioner. For the past 16 months I have worked for the Virginia Garcia Memorial Health Center at Willamina School Based Health Center. The services provided are invaluable to students and families. I know that at the Willamina SBHC many of the students I see would not receive health care if we were not on campus. The model of having mental health on site facilitates rapid assessment for students at risk of harming themselves due to depression. Counseling on site for these students minimizes time loss from school, since they are only absent for the duration of the counseling session with no travel time added in.

Parents do not have to leave work to have quality health care for their children cared for at the SBHC. Parents can attend the appointment via phone with minimal time taken away from work. The SBHC being on site has also allowed students access to health care during school hours that would not be possible if the clinic was not present on campus due to parents/guardians being unable to drive or find transportation to McMinnville for care.

Please remember the children of Oregon and fund School Based Health Centers.

Sincerely

Alice Hamilton

"Parliament is not a congress of ambassadors from different and hostile interests, which interests each must maintain, as an agent and advocate, against other agents and advocates, but Parliament is a deliberative assembly of one nation, with one interest, that of the whole..."

- Edmund Burke

April 21, 2015

TO: Members of the Joint Ways & Means Committee

FROM: Russ Dondero, 1506 Limpus Lane, Forest Grove

Dear Co-Chairs Devlin & Buckley and Members of the Committee

I am here today to talk about two issues I care about deeply – affordable housing for those earning 50% or less of AMI (area medium income) and about funding needs of K-12 education.

- I've been a citizen activist for affordable housing since 1991. I served for 9 years on Washington County's Housing and Community Services advisory committee and since 2009 on our 10-year Plan to End Homeless advisory committee (HPAC).
-
- I'm also speaking as a college professor who has spent over 40 years in the college classroom, including 13 years teaching in Pacific's 5th Year MAT program that prepares students to be K-12 teachers.

My message is that we are not doing enough in Oregon to close the affordable housing gap nor the achievement gap. Why because our current tax system cannot meet this need.

Governor Brown as her predecessor has pledged \$100 million dollars in the next 4 years to stimulate the building of 4000 affordable housing units in Oregon. Sadly, that goal won't meet the challenge in Washington County alone where the housing gap is over 19,000 units.

At our HPAC April 15th meeting we found out that we are losing ground in meeting the needs of the homeless – families, students, elderly, veterans and the chronic homeless largely because we have an extremely low vacancy rate with very high rents and local landlords are not willing to rent units to homeless persons.

Why is the richest county in Oregon, the economic hub of our traded sector economy not able to step up to this problem?

Very simply – with a vacancy rate of less than 2% we aren't building enough housing for those in need and the private market privileges high-end housing which is creating a gentrification problem in metro area suburbs including Washington County.

If something doesn't change it will take this county 160 years to meet the current need for low income rental housing targeted at helping those with incomes of 50% or less of AMI.

Now to the education gap. While the legislature and governor have carved out a significant boost in K-12 funding, the current estimated amount of \$7.255 billion dollars is almost 2 billion dollars short of meeting the funding goal established by the Quality Education Model.

So what's the problem?

Everyone on your committee knows the problem – it's the long-term consequences of Measure 5 that passed in 1991 and its progeny Measure 47 (1996) and 50 (1997). It's also the existence of the personal kicker that is projected to kick again this fall cutting over 300 million out of the General Fund.

Should the Oregon Supreme Court reverse the PERS reforms of last session our fiscal distress would grow even larger.

Until the governor, the legislature and the people of Oregon address the serious funding gaps we face, compounded by too much taxpayer money going to corporate Oregon through SIPS, enterprise zones and tax credits – we will NEVER close the housing gap nor the achievement gap.

We will be constantly missing the mark. We can and should do better but until there is the political will to do it – we will be constantly trying to do more with less. And less in this case means more homeless Oregonians and more school aged children falling through the cracks.

We have mortgaged our future on a version of trickle down economics – assuming subsidizing global corporations to stay or come into Oregon will lift all boats. This investment model began in 1993 – and still the housing gap and achievement gaps remain.

It's time to address the underlying systemic problem – we need more revenue and we can't rob Peter (the average taxpayer) to pay

Paul (corporate Oregon). This merely increases income inequality in Oregon, as it does in the USA. Until that problem is addressed we'll never get ahead of the curve.

As Judge Oliver Wendell Holmes Jr. said "taxes are the price we pay for a civilized society." If Oregon is going to be great – there can be no such thing as a "free lunch" or corporate minimum taxes. Everyone must contribute to the general welfare proportionate to their wealth.

Thank you for listening to my testimony.

1) Measure 5 in 1990 amended the Oregon Constitution establishing limits on Oregon's property taxes on real estate capping the total property tax rate at 1.5%. Measure 5 was followed up with Measure 47 in 1996 and Measure 50 in 1997. Measure 47 limited the growth of a property's assessed value to 3% maximum per year; Measure 50 cleaned up Measure 47.



Child in a homeless shelter in Washington County @ 2006

I'm Patty Bonney of the Washington County Council for FCE, Family, Community, Health.

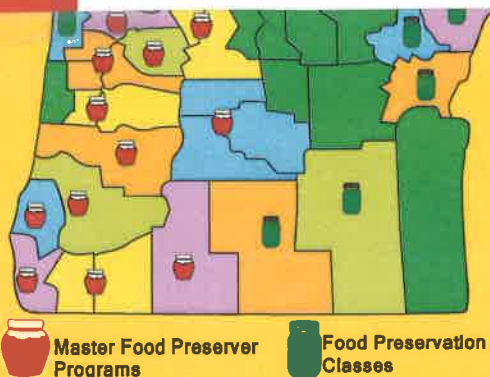
More than a century ago the state land grant colleges started a program to bring to rural women lessons in promoting their families' welfare, community, and health. This evolved into FCH for women (and men) in all areas. All that we learn we share with the community. The Master Food Preservers learn and share at a time when many are eager to learn and use these skills. *The 2014 program total contacts equal 41,042*

Washington County has 43 members. In the second six months of 2014 we contributed \$965.00 to 4H and the Food Bank. We volunteered 5,306 hours in such fields as 4H, food banks, knitting premie caps to give to the hospitals, taking shut-ins to their appointments, and many other ways to give to the community. The state is getting a lot of bangs for each buck.

Thank you for your time.

Patty Bonney
WASHINGTON COUNTY COUNCIL ~~VP~~ VP
CIC
FCH FAMILY COMMUNITY HEALTH
OSU EXTENSION SERVICES

OSU Extension Family and Community Health 2014 Food Preservation Programing



25,524

HOURS VOLUNTEERED

..... **268ask** **an EXPERT**

QUESTIONS ANSWERED



WALK-INS RECEIVED



CALLS ANSWERED



DEMO ATTENDANCE



PRESSURE GAUGES TESTED

.....
FARMERS MARKETS CONTACTS



EXHIBIT VISITORS



2014 PROGRAM TOTAL CONTACTS
41,042

Hello and thank you for letting me speak to you this evening.

I'm speaking in support of SB 657 which provides 16 million to OSU cooperative extension. There are many good reasons to support the extension services, but here I want to highlight what a good deal funding them is. I believe that we, as a state, will get much more than the 16 million we put in.

In my case, the cooperative extension helped put me on a path to owning my own farm business that is still successful and growing. We'll be able to hire three people this season as we expand our CSA, restaurant sales, and market sales. I wouldn't have the business skills or farming skills without OSU.

They also provide good usable research that helps improve farmer's bottom line – far more than the cost of the research. Even more importantly, they help farmers know the best practices on fertilizer management and other good environmental practices which helps keep our water and soil clean and healthy. It's a small dose of prevention that goes a long way.

Lastly, they use the money they have and expand it's reach by partnering with good national organizations and growers groups to get good research done and out to those who actually use it.

SB 657 would be 16 million dollars well spent.

Thank you,
Aaron Nichols
Stoneboat Farm

Joint Ways and Means Committee
Testimony of Dana Galaxy, Legal Aid Services of Oregon
April 21, 2015, Portland Community College Rock Creek Campus

Co-chairs Devlin and Buckley, Members of the Committee, my name is Dana Galaxy and I live in Beaverton. I am a member of the Board of Directors of Legal Aid Services of Oregon, where I have proudly served for the last four years, and I am testifying today to thank you for your past support for Legal Aid funding and to ask you to support increased funding for Legal Aid.

Most of our Legal Aid board members are lawyers but one-third of the members come from low-income families and are eligible for Legal Aid. I am one of the client-eligible board members. I came to the United States from Czechoslovakia 26 years ago. Moving to a new country with a different language and culture far from my home had many challenges for me. Although I'm very happy to live here, I've had difficult times through the last 26 years that involved many adjustments to my new country. I am grateful for the support that I received from the community during those difficult times.

I try to give back to my community to repay the support that I received when I needed it. In addition to being on the Legal Aid board, I have worked with the Community Action Agency in Washington County and with Head Start. From my own experiences and from my work with these organizations, I have seen first-hand the needs of low-income families in our communities. A legal needs study in Oregon showed that low-income families are more likely to experience legal problems than higher-income families. These legal problems cause hardship and stress for entire families. When legal aid is able to step in and help, they can improve the lives not only of their individual clients. They can also improve the lives of others around them.

When you stabilize and support the weakest members of our community, you will improve the community itself and make lives better not only for them but for everyone. I strongly believe that every positive step and every dollar towards the great cause of helping the less fortunate is multiplied by tenfold as times goes on. Every little seed grows with supportive surroundings. We are only as strong as our weakest link, so by helping the less fortunate members of our beautiful communities, we are creating self-sufficient and well-adjusted family structures. By helping others you ultimately help yourself and your community. Creating safe communities with well-adjusted members will benefit our county, our state, our nation and ultimately the world!

I love being a Board member for Legal Aid because I have seen firsthand how Legal Aid can improve lives. I love to be a part of Legal Aid, helping our community to become better and stronger, where the lives of all people are valuable and heard.

We are very grateful for the legislature's past and current support for legal aid. Your support has helped us to help many thousands of clients but we are still not meeting the needs in our communities. I am here today to ask you to please support additional funding for Legal Aid along the lines of House Bill 2329. Thank you for allowing me the opportunity to testify today and thank you for your support of Legal Aid funding.

April 21, 2015

Joint Legislative Ways and Means Committee Members:

For the record, my name is Lynn Cox. I live in Portland, Oregon in Washington County.

I am an OSU Extension Master Gardener™ who strongly supports the proposed budget for Statewide Services—including the \$16 million for new program capacity, earmarked to address emerging critical issues for Oregonians

As an active OSU Extension volunteer, I have been able to see, firsthand, how Extension programs engage people and families to better their lives. Three years ago, in my role as an OSU Extension Master Gardener, I collaborated with the Oregon Food Bank to develop a researched-based curriculum which is designed to give novice gardeners the skills they need to successfully grown a portion of their own food on a budget. This program, known as Seed to Supper is still going strong with Extension Master Gardeners serving as Seed to Supper gardening educators. The classes are now taught in over 15 counties and over 1,000 Oregonians have been able to take this free course. Oregonians are hungry, for food and for knowledge. The OSU Extension, through its Master Gardener program is helping to meet this need.

Please support OSU Extension by funding Statewide Services at their base level...plus the \$16 million added capacity. At this level, Extension will continue current services and expand into new, critical areas.

Thank you.



Lynn Cox,
OSU Extension Service Master Gardener volunteer

lynn.cox@zsquared.net

4592 NW Oakpoint Way

Portland, OR 97229

281.731.8855 (mobile)

503.629.9156 (home)

Respected members of state government:

I have come before you today, to illustrate the need for increased funding or sweeping reform in how you fund higher education in Oregon. The current model is not sustainable. Why does PSU receive such a small portion of the overall funding pie when we have the largest student enrollment in the state? We are at a breaking point, where students must choose whether to purchase a book, or purchase groceries. Go to school, or quit, and get a job. Are these the choices you are proud that we're having to make? Why in Oregon, does it make more sense for our lawmakers to spend ever increasing amounts of money incarcerating Oregonians instead of educating them?? Costs on campus continue to rise, Despite many of them being for fixed buildings and services. Parking costs are now \$353 a term. Rent \$1033. Various fees tacked onto our student accounts now add up to \$423 per term, in addition to the constant raises (\$3105) of tuition. A payment plan was recently enacted to counter uncollected student debt, that inadvertently preyed on the poorest of currently attending students, not dropouts. The situation is grim.

I am a first-generation college student. I am Native American, from a low-income family background. I successfully pursued and obtained a Bachelors degree with a double minor here at PSU. But it has not been without struggle. I spent 2 and half of those years sweating in a mascot suit, the embodiment of PSU's school spirit as Victor Viking to earn a small athletic scholarship. I earned a competitive scholarship from my tribe, with a few other small scholarships to complete my funding. Now, I am a graduate student.

But the hard truth is this. Without the scholarships I'm receiving I could not afford to attend your school or get my degree. With scholarships and loans, I have only \$1200 per term, or \$300 a month to purchase books, food and other basic necessities. If you can make that work, I'd like to see you do it. It is time for our lawmakers to show us they care about Oregonians and their futures. Be innovative and show us that we have not made a poor choice in where we chose to invest our education dollars. Again I respectfully Thank you for your valuable time~

Monty Herron

April 15, 2015

Dear Sir or Madam,

Re. Support for Oregon Senate Bill 657

The North Willamette Horticulture Society is a membership organization (501.c.3). We have represented and promoted the berry and fresh market vegetable industries in NW Oregon and SW Washington since 1954. We strongly support Oregon Senate Bill 657.

The OSU Extension Service supports our growers with relevant and timely research and education that helps to keep our businesses profitable and allows us to respond effectively to new issues and challenges as they arise. Funding for Extension and the Agricultural Experiment Stations has been declining or stagnant for decades in spite of their value to our industry, and the public interests of Oregon citizens.

OSU Extension helps us to implement effective integrated pest management programs that protect the environment. They conduct nutrient management research that guides our fertility decisions so that we can maintain good crop quality and yield while protecting the quality of Oregon waterways. Their vegetable and berry breeding programs help to ensure that we have cultivars that are resistant to important pests, have great flavor, and meet the other needs of our industry. Extension faculty and staff are also helping us to navigate new food safety rules being introduced by the FDA this year. New and beginning farmer training programs and the Small Farms program also helps young people get a good start as they start a new farm business.

We encourage you to vote in favor of SB 657 so that OSU Extension can continue to support our industry and the sustainability of Oregon agriculture.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Matt Battilega". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Matt Battilega
President
Oregon Fresh Market Growers' Association

April 14, 2015

Joint Legislative Ways and Means Committee Members:

For the record, my name is *Elizabeth Price*. I live in *Portland*, Oregon.

I am an Oregon State University Extension Master Gardener™ who strongly supports the proposed \$123 million budget for Statewide Services—including the \$16 million for new program capacity and earmarked to address emerging critical issues for Oregonians.

As you know, the OSU Extension Service is one of three statewide public service programs. It engages people, families, and businesses to help solve problems, manage resources, and develop leadership in rural and urban areas.

Investing in OSU Extension Service, I believe, provides immediate benefit for both rural and urban Oregonians. As an active OSU Extension volunteer, I see, firsthand, how Extension programs engage people and families to better their lives. Each year, Extension Master Gardeners teach thousands of local gardeners how to grow their own food and about gardening practices that build soil, conserve water, and help wildlife.

Through my volunteer work, I know the strong need for and interest in home-grown, quality food. That's why I am pleased to see the proposed new initiative to address food security and safety.

In summary, please support Oregon State University Extension by funding Statewide Services at their base level...plus the \$16 million added capacity. At this level, Extension will continue current services and expand into new, critical areas including Food Security and Safety.

Please support expanding opportunities for more Oregonians by fully funding OSU Extension. Thank you.

Elizabeth Price

April 14, 2015

Joint Legislative Ways and Means Committee Members:

For the record, my name is Jacki Lindquist. I live in Beaverton, Oregon.

I am an Oregon State University Extension Master Gardener™ who strongly supports the proposed \$123 million budget for Statewide Services—including the \$16 million for new program capacity and earmarked to address emerging critical issues for Oregonians.

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A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jacki Lindquist". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned below the typed text of the letter.

April 14, 2015

Joint Legislative Ways and Means Committee Members:

For the record, my name is *Stephanie Haugen*. I live in *Beaverton*, Oregon.

I am an Oregon State University Extension Master Gardener™ who strongly supports the proposed \$123 million budget for Statewide Services—including the \$16 million for new program capacity and earmarked to address emerging critical issues for Oregonians.


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Please support expanding opportunities for more Oregonians by fully funding OSU Extension. Thank you.


Stephanie Haugen
503.593.4802

April 14, 2015

Joint Legislative Ways and Means Committee Members:

For the record, my name is *Marilyn Turner*. I live in *Cedar Mill*, Oregon.

I am an Oregon State University Extension Master Gardener™ who strongly supports the proposed \$123 million budget for Statewide Services—including the \$16 million for new program capacity and earmarked to address emerging critical issues for Oregonians.

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Please support expanding opportunities for more Oregonians by fully funding OSU Extension. Thank you.



**Joint Ways and Means Committee
Portland, Oregon
April 21, 2015
Testimony on behalf of the
Oregon State Bar**

I am appearing on behalf of the members of the Oregon State Bar to advocate for adequate funding for the courts, low income legal services and indigent defense, the bar's three budget priorities for the 2015 legislative session:

Provide adequate support for the Oregon Judicial Department.

- Fund the department sufficiently to maintain current levels of case processing and access to justice for all Oregonians by keeping courts fully operational during business hours, five days a week.
- Continue funding for Oregon eCourt, the department's ongoing project to make courts more efficient and to increase access to information.
- Support safe and suitable court facilities by providing bonding authority for Multnomah and Jefferson, and other counties, while funding courthouse safety projects throughout the state.
- Address judicial compensation. Oregon's judges are among the lowest paid in the nation.

Support for legal services for low income people.

- Thank you for the Legislature's leadership on HB 2700, which allows class action residual funds to be directed to low income legal services. This is the first step towards providing adequate funding for legal aid. There is a still overwhelming need for funding for low income legal services.
- Support long term funding for a statewide volunteer coordinator.

Support adequate funding for indigent defense services in criminal cases – a crucial part of the public safety system.

- Provide consistent rates and mileage for public defense contractors.
- Ensure fair compensation for publicly funded attorneys in the criminal and juvenile justice systems.

Respectfully submitted,

Bernadette Bignon

2015 Ways and Means Testimony for Oregon Solutions Partners

- Hello, my name is Tim Warren. I'm president of Three Oaks Development Co. A second generation business in the Columbia corridor and I'm a property and business owner in the Multnomah County Drainage District.
- ^{Thank you} Thanks for taking time to hear public testimony on the budget.
- Please support
 - Recapitalization of the Special Public Works Fund, especially \$7 million for levee inspection and repair (Oregon Business Development Dept.)
 - The \$22 million Regional Solutions budget, \$2 million of which is for the Portland metro region, a portion of which support flood management in our area.
- As a property manager and developer working in a levee protected area, I know very well what the levees mean for the economic development potential in the Multnomah County Drainage Districts.
- Since 1976 Our family business ^{have} ~~has~~ developed the Parkrose Business Center, Interstate Crossroads business Center, National Weather Service Building to name a few. All of these projects are within the levee boundaries.
 - One of the projects developed by our company is Interstate Crossroad Business Park. It consists of 100 acres of prime industrial land. The park houses over 40 businesses, hundreds of jobs and currently has a 500,000 sq. ft. distribution center under construction.
 - Without a certified levee, all of these businesses are at risk. Not only just from a life safety point of view, but also

economically. Banks would not renew loans, insurance costs would be prohibitive, and investors would vanish.

- Jobs along with the tax base would be lost
- The districts provide nearly 20% of the Portland Metro Region's supply of commercial and industrial development opportunity.
- In the four districts in north and northeast Portland alone the levees protect
 - 20% of the metro region's industrial futures
 - \$5.5 billion in property value
- All of this value, and opportunity, would virtually disappear if the levees were not maintained to federal standards.
 - Even the perceived loss of standing in federal programs could steer investors away. Investment from the state sends a strong signal that the districts will continue to be a safe place for economic development.
- Investing in levee investigation and repair is a step toward meeting the state planning goal
 - Goal 9: providing adequate opportunity for economic development
- Please support the capitalization of the Special Public Works Fund for Levees and look for similar testimony as you continue your travels around the state. Flood safety is truly an issue of statewide significance.
- Thank you again for your time.

17235 NW Lonerock Ln.
Beaverton, OR 97006
April 22, 2015

Dear Senator Betsy Johnson:

My name is Annabelle Morgan. My home is in Beaverton, Oregon, but my brother and I own agricultural and forestland in Tidewater, Oregon. Presently, I am a 4-H leader, a forestry tree farmer and a member of Oregon and Lincoln County Small Woodlands Association, and most recently have been involved with my brother in starting a hazelnut orchard. To me, Extension means reaching out, touching lives of all ages and socio-economic groups. As a second-generation 4-H member, I learned many life skills I have been able to teach the next generation of 4-H members by volunteering as a 4-H leader for the past 25 years. OSU Extension Cooperative Service means cooperation among faculty and volunteers extending advice and educational resources that positively impact lives of Oregonians from birth to death. It also conducts research programs that have helped to develop greater crop production per acre and varieties of crops that are resilient to diseases or insects that can destroy crops and trees. All of these programs contribute to healthier citizens, to a healthier environment, and to a healthier economy that creates jobs and revenue for Oregon. *Please support SB 657.*

I am only one of over 14,000 volunteers involved in the 4-H program. As such, I have seen first-hand how important this program is to creating a positive environment in which K-12th graders learn by doing. In a society where many youth are at-risk from all economic backgrounds, 4-H exposes them to a variety of positive educational activities where they can safely learn life skills in areas of interest including animal care, clothing & textiles, foods & nutrition, food preservation, horticulture, veterinary science and large & small animal care, market animals, art, photography, leadership, public speaking, presentations, and many other areas. The most recent additions include after school programs, camps, and areas of science, engineering, and technology. Some of these programs have been funded from grants, but many are added to the already packed schedule of current Extension Agents. Over the years, it has saddened me to see the impact that cutting extension budgets has had on the capability of 4-H agents and staff to offer youth the educational opportunities I had as a 4-H'er as well as those my children had when they were growing up. At a time when youth need to become involved in positive groups, staff reductions and increased responsibilities imposed on those remaining have decreased the ability to promote 4-H to adults and youth, letting them know what 4-H offers and also about training support provided; therefore, less youth are aware of this program or are unable to find clubs in which they can participate. When my daughters were in 4-H, we had two 4-H agents, a student secretarial aide, and a secretary who coordinated the various programs as well as worked to recruit members and volunteers. The county dog project had about 100 members, but that has dwindled to 1/3rd or less. I have been told that numbers have decreased statewide, also. This was only one of my

daughters' many projects, but it taught them compassion and care for animals and how to be consistent in expectations. All their projects taught them to set and work to achieve goals. They gained the confidence needed to assume leadership roles, teaching others skills they had learned and to organize programs such as our Awards & Recognition Night and tri-county learning days. 4-H also instilled the desire to work hard to succeed, but also to cooperate with and to encourage and support others through friendly competition with their peers. As Teen leaders, they were in charge of planning, coordinating materials, and teaching skills to younger members. All these experiences gave them confidence when speaking and doing presentations, skills they have needed throughout their schooling and now in their professions such as the Dr. Seuss night at the school where my elder daughter teaches or forestry learning events as part of my younger daughter's job. As 4-H youth, they also participated in and coordinated community service activities which taught them the importance of giving back to the community. My elder daughter is the camp activity director at Sun River during the summer and is presently involved in working with a professor at OSU, the Forest Service, other teachers at her school, and community members to create an Outdoor School in her school district. In both her teaching and summer jobs, she has been able to implement healthy living, gardening, and educational and creative activities and life skills she learned through 4-H and has assumed leadership roles within her school and community due to the confidence 4-H instilled as well as the passion to "Make the Best Better" for her students who live in a low socio-economic area of Oregon.

When my younger daughter was a senior in high school, she got a job at the local veterinary clinic putting to use her 4-H Veterinary Science and dog care knowledge to explore a career as a veterinarian. She was also interested in finding out about careers in forestry since she had watched and helped her grandfather on our family tree farm. Fortunately, we had a forestry agent in our county who was offering night classes called "A Short Course in Forestry," which we attended. She also met with him and he helped her to design an independent study class that was approved by her Biology teacher, so she was able to meet with a variety of people in the field of forestry. The agent also had her spend a day at his experimental tree farm checking the plantation for Swiss needle cast or other diseases, and collecting samples of fir needles from trees which had been treated with various sprays and/or fertilizers to see which were producing the healthiest, least diseased trees. Due to the agent's willingness to assist her in exploring this field of study, she found she wanted to study Forestry at OSU, where she received her undergraduate degree in Forestry Management, and then received a Teaching Assistant Research Grant which paid for most of her Master's Degree in Forestry Biometrics. She has since held jobs in Washington State Natural Resource Division, and with Gray's Harbor Conservation Service District, and timber cruising and overseeing budgets for a private timber company are among her duties at her job with a private timber company. When she had a presentation to give for the company and her boss was a bit concerned, she told me, "He doesn't know how many 4-H

presentations I have had to give." Her 4-H training and the mentoring by the Forestry Agent and her college professor have translated into her attaining the knowledge and skills needed so that she is confident she can do this job.

Personally, as a Small Woodland Owner, I have grasped the extended hand of Forestry agents and extension programs which have offered education in areas of Forestry Management I have needed to know in order to develop a management plan for our farm, to control invasive species and weeds that encroach upon new seedlings and retards their growth or kills them. I have been able to call agents to determine seedling sources or people who have expertise in an area I do not know. They have also directed me to agencies which have federal grants we have been able to use to transform pastureland to forestland or for tree thinning projects which we needed to do in areas where trees were too dense. Without these, we would not have had the monetary means to achieve healthier forestlands on our property. This will be of benefit in the future when we harvest, since better growth equates to a healthier environment while it also increases board feet and Severance and Harvest Taxes become added revenue for the state. Agents have also visited our farm when we had questions about some issue in our trees and have offered classes, field trips, and have given us written resources and advice so we can work to grow healthy forests. Besides this, they have conducted Master Woodland Managers Classes which are like the Master Gardeners classes they offer where people are trained, then volunteer hours to helping other woodland owners or gardeners with their questions. In this manner, the information can benefit many more individuals than the agent(s) teaching the classes can possibly reach in their limited time and increasing responsibilities. It frees up time for continued research. The research which OSU Extension and Forest Research Laboratories are doing needs to continue especially in the areas such as Swiss needle cast, a major threat to our timber industry especially on the Coast, and other diseases including those caused by insects. This research will be increasingly important to the well-being of our forestlands, one of Oregon's most valuable resources and a major source of state revenue. Not only is this important to retain Oregon's healthy environment, but also so that we can continue to compete with other countries on a Global Market to provide the highest quality timber and lumber products. This will increase much-needed jobs and revenue for our state. Grants for research bring in funds that also enhance our revenue while allowing the needed research laboratories and those faculty members involved in these to continue this important work. Cutting faculty will not only decrease learning opportunities for upcoming foresters, but will decrease income tax they pay the state. This will also cause a decrease in funding from private and federal grants and donations and will decrease the necessary educational support needed for healthier forests, since agents are already having to cover several counties due to past budget cuts and consolidations.

Agricultural Extension is another arm of support necessary for a healthy lifestyle and economy in Oregon. In 2011, my brother & I contacted an agent knowledgeable about Hazelnut farming, then ordered, and read publications

developed through OSU on this as we converted our pastureland to a hazelnut orchard. These were beneficial, but it was through talking directly to agents and hazelnut farmers, nursery owners, and farm supply companies they suggested, that we gained important insight into what was needed in order to plant hazelnuts in our area as well as what blight-resistant varieties and pollinators were needed. It is most important to note that it was through experimentation at OSU that faculty were able to isolate the genes needed to create new blight-resistant varieties of this crop. Oregon is the nation's top producer and the industry is working to expand their Global and domestic market of these nuts, so continued research to develop the best producing, blight resistant trees will give Oregon the edge when selling to the ever-expanding Asian Market which is just across the ocean. This is only one example of how continued research can benefit healthy crop production and increase revenue. Combining federal and state investments, research in areas such as honey bee colony collapse, spotted fruit fly infestations, sudden oak death syndrome, post-fire restoration, and bacterial infections in our seed oyster industry have been beneficial in helping to solve some of these problems in the past, so reducing research faculty will also decrease our ability to resolve future threats to our natural resources as well as reducing revenue from federal grants for these activities.

In conclusion, the arm of extension, like the spokes on a wheel allow Oregon to radiate education and to create a large volunteer base so this education can be imparted to individuals or clubs, giving a sense of belonging, and positive energy to all ages, socio-economic levels and corners of the state. It supports and encourages productivity and education in youth as well as in agricultural and forestry-related industries that are the backbone of our state's economy. These in turn lead to a healthier individuals and environment. 4-H, like one member stated, "...Taught me I could do things!" That confidence and the exploration through a variety of project areas which are open to all youth help them to define who they are and enable them to participate in positive youth groups. Besides teaching life skills, the leadership skills and commitment to community service motivate youth to become the productive, compassionate citizens we need in our society. Besides learning skills that she enjoyed, community service activities within our club created positive character and compassion which has continued in her adult years as she has traveled to Mexico, China, and most recently, to Guatemala to assist with projects needed to improve the quality of the lives in third-world situations. Accompanying a group of volunteers to a remote village in Guatemala she helped build sanitary outhouses as there were none there, and subsequently, much disease and poor health or deaths were common.

In the areas of forestry and agriculture, extension education and research to increase productive forests and agricultural crops must continue if we are to protect our environment and to increase our competitiveness in a Global Market. This market is looking for the healthiest and highest quality timber, lumber, and crops. To be most effective, decreasing funding for educational materials, faculty and research positions will not only decrease opportunities for positive youth development through the 4-H program, but also will decrease

educational programs that aid tree and agricultural farmers to maximize productivity and thus revenue for the state of Oregon. Slowing or discontinuing forward progress in research will increase productivity and quality in the future.


Thank you for reading my testimony. I sincerely appreciate the time and effort you are making to determine the best means of balancing our state's budget and determining how extension can be funded so that citizens in all regions of the state can continue to benefit from all the programs offered and in turn impart the acquired knowledge, compassion, and skills to others.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Annabelle Morgan". The ink is dark and the handwriting is fluid, with a large loop at the end of the last name.

Annabelle Morgan

My View: Brownfields can be useful again

Created on Thursday, 02 April 2015 07:00 | Written by [Kathryn Harrington](#) | 

 [Comments](#)

Oregonians have a long tradition of making the most of what we have.

From the Native Americans who managed land in the Willamette Valley through fire, to visionary Oregonians like Republican Gov. Tom McCall who fought to protect our environment, farmland and beaches, doing the best with what we've got has always been a core value in this great place.

Mark Twain is credited with coining the phrase "Buy land, they're not making it anymore." But there's a lot of land in our region that nobody wants to buy — more than 2,000 brownfields, land that once hosted gas stations, dry cleaners or other businesses that may, over time, have left toxins in the soil.

Many of the companies that originally soiled the land have gone bankrupt, and the process to make these properties safe is arduous. So these sites stay vacant and unproductive, waiting for a determined buyer willing to take on needed testing and cleanup. They're padlocked in and who-knows-what is in the dirt underneath.

The public and private sectors need to work together to take on this work. That's why a group called the Oregon Brownfields Coalition is proposing legislation to make it easier for all of us to do just that, and make brownfields a great place to do business — to make the most of what we have.

The coalition includes counties, cities, Metro, 1000 Friends of Oregon, the Port of Portland, Associated Oregon Industries, Upstream Public Health, the Oregon Business Association, the Portland Business Alliance, the Oregon Environmental Justice Task Force and others. That's a diverse group working for a common cause.

Proposals in Salem, including House Bill 2734, would allow governments to create special "land bank districts." These boards would be able to clean up brownfields, while shielding taxpayers from liability for hazards left behind by the users of the past.

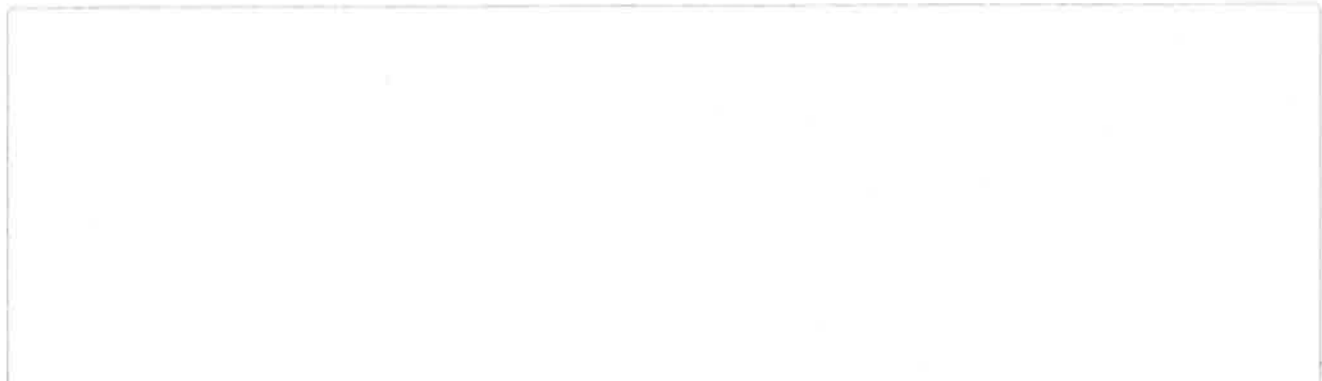
The bill also would allow governments to offer tax abatement on brownfields, curbing taxes for some to-be-determined amount of time after cleanup. This would offer incentives for private companies to new use of our land.

There are powerful arguments for cleaning up brownfields. Every \$1 the public spends on brownfield cleanup prompts \$116 in spending from the private sector, be it in environmental mitigation, new construction or new economic activity. The state's Brownfields Redevelopment Fund has helped to spark \$2.3 billion in economic activity in Oregon.

Cleaning up abandoned, polluted sites in our neighborhoods is healthy for our communities, and helps protect our region's farms and forests. Land that we can better use inside our urban growth boundary for jobs is land we don't have to use on the edge.

This bill isn't a magic wand to fix all of our problems. More work will be needed to help make brownfields safe and productive again. But House Bill 2734 helps us continue down the path of cleaning up these long-abandoned sites, turning them into productive jobs centers and continuing our tradition of making the most of what we have in this great region.

Kathryn Harrington is the Metro councilor representing District 4.





OREGON BROWNFIELDS COALITION

ORGANIZATIONAL COALITION MEMBERS AS OF FEBRUARY 2015

ASSOCIATION OF OREGON COUNTIES
LEAGUE OF OREGON CITIES
OREGON PUBLIC PORTS ASSOCIATION
CITIES OF BEAVERTON, BEND, EUGENE,
LINCOLN CITY, PORTLAND, SALEM,
SPRINGFIELD AND TIGARD
CLACKAMAS COUNTY
MULTNOMAH COUNTY
WASHINGTON COUNTY
METRO
PORT OF PORTLAND
BUSINESS OREGON
OREGON DEPT. OF ENVIRONMENTAL
QUALITY
OREGON HEALTH AUTHORITY
REGIONAL SOLUTIONS CENTER
US EPA
1000 FRIENDS OF OREGON
AUDUBON SOCIETY OF PORTLAND
BEYOND TOXICS
COMMUNITY HOUSING FUND
GROUNDWORK PORTLAND
NEIGHBORHOOD PARTNERSHIPS
OREGON ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE
TASK FORCE
OREGON OPPORTUNITY NETWORK
UPSTREAM PUBLIC HEALTH
VERDE
ASSOCIATED OREGON INDUSTRIES
COLUMBIA CORRIDOR ASSOCIATION
NORTHWEST ENVIRONMENTAL
BUSINESS COUNCIL
OREGON BUSINESS ASSOCIATION
OREGON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
ASSOCIATION
OREGON STATE BUILDING &
CONSTRUCTION TRADES COUNCIL
OREGON STATE CHAMBER OF
COMMERCE
INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF
SHOPPING CENTERS
CLACKAMAS COUNTY BUSINESS
ALLIANCE
PORTLAND BUSINESS ALLIANCE
WESTSIDE ECONOMIC ALLIANCE
PORTLAND STATE UNIVERSITY

BROWNFIELDS: POLLUTED SITES, NEW HOPE

Oregon is burdened by thousands of polluted sites called brownfields. Ranging in size from large factory sites to small former gas stations and dry cleaners, over 13,000 brownfields are scattered throughout the state – only 35 percent of which have been assessed or cleaned up.

Nearly every Oregonian has a brownfield in their community. They are the vacant lots we drive by daily, the piles of polluted dirt behind rusting chain link fences, the abandoned storefronts blighting our main streets.

Brownfields must be cleaned up before they can be reused for jobs, housing and other community needs. However, cleanup is expensive. Current owners and potential developers are required to pay, even though the original polluters may have gone bankrupt, been acquired by other companies or disappeared. Landowners interested in cleanup often face a time-consuming and expensive maze of permits, regulations and inspections. Many landowners and developers steer clear of known or potential brownfields because the costs and risks are too high to justify action.

Government action to help get brownfields cleaned up could unlock billions of dollars of economic activity. The state's small Brownfields Redevelopment Fund has helped create \$2.3 billion in economic activity with relatively minimal investment. But so far the fund has barely scratched the surface of Oregon's brownfield challenge.

SOLUTIONS TO OREGON'S BROWNFIELD CHALLENGE

The Oregon Brownfields Coalition has this goal: find collaborative strategies to help turn these liabilities into community assets quickly and equitably. The members of the Coalition represent public, private and nonprofit partners and a wide range of disparate interests. But we share a common goal with respect to this critical challenge. Brownfields are holding our communities and our economy back. It's time to take action to help communities all over Oregon.

The Coalition proposes these solutions in the 2015 legislative session:

- **Recapitalize the state Brownfields Redevelopment Fund**, as proposed in the Governor's budget.
- Allow local communities to create **land banks** and offer **tax abatements** for brownfield cleanup and redevelopment.
- Create **state tax credits** for brownfield redevelopment.

We look forward to working with you to solve Oregon's brownfield challenge.

CONTACT

Oregon Brownfields Coalition
503-797-1562
oregonmetro.gov/brownfields



OREGON BROWNFIELDS COALITION

2015 LEGISLATIVE PROPOSAL: MORE DETAILS

Every brownfield is different. It is important to have a range of tools to solve Oregon's brownfield challenge. As such, the Brownfields Coalition is respectfully presenting a three-part legislative proposal for the 2015 Oregon Legislature. In addition to recapitalizing the state Brownfield Fund, here are the strategies the Coalition is recommending.

LAND BANKS (HB 2734): COMMUNITY CREATED, COMMUNITY DRIVEN

A land bank is a locally-created public authority that can acquire, hold, manage and transfer property to new owners. Land banks aim to return brownfield sites neglected by the open market back into productive use. They do this by:

- acquiring titles to contaminated, vacant, or blighted properties
- facilitating remediation and/or site improvements to eliminate barriers to redevelopment
- transferring properties to owners who will develop the property in a way that supports community priorities.

A land bank works in cooperation with local governments, non-profits, community organizations, lenders, and property developers to leverage available resources to clean up contaminated properties.

How would land banks benefit Oregon communities? Local land banks let the community create a streamlined process to acquire, clean up and redevelop brownfields throughout the state. By making the process faster, easier and cheaper, communities can more easily return brownfields to productive use, in a way that reflects their own values.

BROWNFIELD TAX ABATEMENTS (HB 2734): LOCAL SOLUTIONS MAKE THINGS HAPPEN

Brownfield tax abatements are partial property tax exclusions for specified improvements to brownfields. They can offset risks and costs of brownfield cleanup, especially for sites that would otherwise remain polluted. Abatements can:

- be targeted to specific reinvestment areas
- have a set of conditions attached for participation
- be enacted at the discretion of the local jurisdiction
- offer a new benefit to non-profit development organizations

A tax abatement program for brownfields would focus on work done to assess a property's current contamination and for any cleanup done by the owner. No abatement would be given for any subsequent redevelopment on the property.

How would a tax abatement benefit Oregon communities? A tax abatement program would give local control to municipalities to provide incentives for brownfield remediation and redevelopment. Properties that don't pencil out for redevelopment could potentially become feasible to property owners and industrial developers much sooner.

BROWNFIELD TAX CREDIT (HB 2289): STATE LEADERSHIP CREATES JOBS

A brownfield tax credit would allow property owners and developers to reduce income taxes by a percentage of the documented qualifying costs of brownfield cleanup. This incentive can help offset risks and costs of brownfield cleanup, especially for sites that would otherwise remain polluted. The tax credit can:

- apply to prospective purchasers or non-responsible owners (public, private, non-profit)
- have an annual program cap
- require property owners to be enrolled in a DEQ cleanup program
- require a contribution of cleanup costs from the owner

A tax credit program for brownfields would focus on any work done to assess and cleanup properties, including assessment, demolition, cleanup, and disposal.

How would a tax credit benefit Oregon communities? A tax credit would give a statewide incentive to property owners and developers that might not explore development on known brownfields. The credit could tilt the development feasibility of key industrial and employment sites, as well as town center and main street redevelopment opportunities statewide. Similar tax credits in other states have created thousands of jobs with relatively little state investment.

Chair Devlin, Chair Buckley, members of the committee, my name is Karen Belsey and I am the Administrator of the Opal School at the Portland Children's Museum in Portland. Thank you for the opportunity to speak to you today.

When the Oregon legislature established charter schools in 1999, it identified a clear intention and nine specific goals (in ORS 338.15). Shortly thereafter, Opal School opened its doors. I'm pleased to tell you today that all of those nine goals have been vigorously pursued at Opal.

Opal School really is the best of what charter schools are meant to be. It is a place that is inclusive, innovative, & taking action to impact education for children across Portland, the State, and the country.

The Opal School is a treasured professional development resource utilized by teachers, schools, and districts. Opal hosts workshops, symposia, and study groups; produces videos and books; and presents at conferences. We work closely with neighboring schools and districts to support their work. Teachers, administrators, and superintendents regularly tour Opal School and observe classes to consider the implications to their programs. During just this school year, more than 1000 educators will attend significant presentations

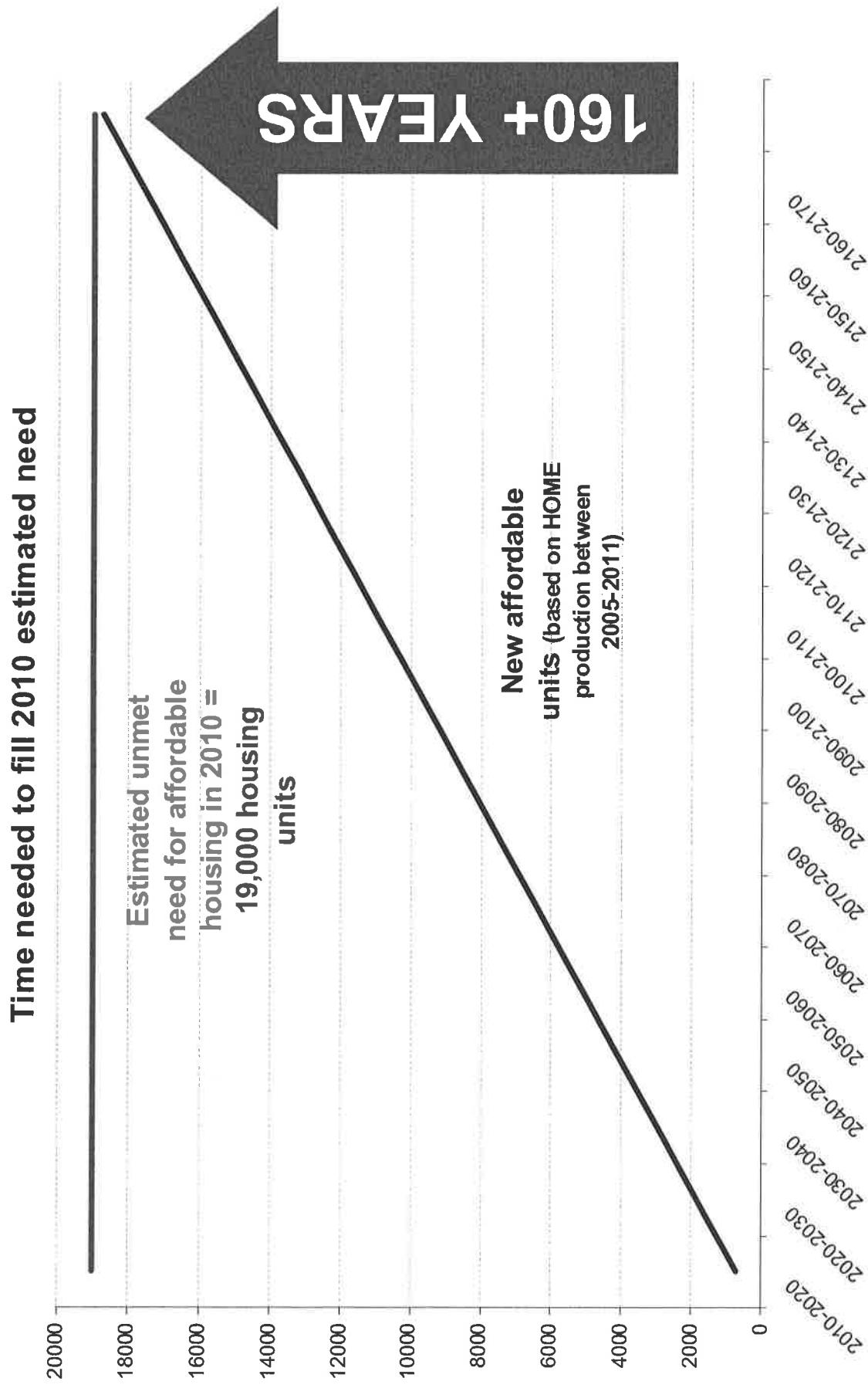
by Opal teachers that illuminate classroom stories in ways that extend participants ideas regarding what is possible in schools.

This service to the larger profession, both mission-driven and identified as a central goal in the charter legislation, comes in addition to the same workload that all teachers assume. This complex job description requires sophisticated expertise and long hours.

Incredibly, Opal teachers do this work at a fraction of the salary of their district peers: earning between \$35,000 and \$39,000 a year and receiving lesser benefit packages than these peers. Too often it causes them to leave. Teachers who have left Opal report that their take home pay nearly doubles when they move to District operated schools.

While Opal's service to the larger profession has been recognized and supported through grants, such awards cannot provide the stability necessary to increase wages. Passing SB 819 will result in a group of Oregonians, who provide a significant public service, receiving a living wage - something which teachers, students, and educators state-wide will benefit from. Thank you.

Are we meeting the need for affordable housing?



Source: Washington County Consolidated Plan, OCD, American Community Survey, US Census

Recommended Goal

- Increase affordable housing production to **20% of new housing units** while maintaining existing affordable housing stock

33,537 new housing units between 2000-2010

20% of new units = about 670 units per year



April 21, 2015

Janet Tilp
202459 SW Ladd Hill Road
Sherwood, OR 97140

Dear Ways and Means Committee Members,

I am writing to show my support for the OSU Extension Programs. One of the programs that have most impacted my family and others is the 4-H Program. I was involved with 4-H as a child and then my two children each completed 9 years in the 4-H Program. It has been a fantastic program for the development of my children. I am also a leader for the Golden Fleece, a fiber goat club with currently 13 members and a Mentor for the 4-H Ambassadors Program, a leadership project, currently with 13 members.

My two children and many of the members I have mentored through the years have really benefited from the 4-H Program. I have seen a huge impact upon my children and the many members I have mentored through the last 15 years. They have gained responsibility, self-esteem in knowing that they can accomplish whatever they set their goals upon, speaking skills, community service and leadership skills. Many of these skills have helped them in the years after 4-H as they become accomplished adults in our community.

I have seen members who were shy and unsure of themselves in the early years of 4-H soon develop a strong sense of self-worth and be quite happy to talk about their project that they have worked so hard on through the year. This is especially true when they have seen what they can accomplish when they showcase their projects at the County Fair. Then as they move through the years of 4-H they are soon giving back to the younger members of the group by showing them what knowledge they have learned. The 4-H Program creates better citizens for our community because they want to give back whether it be through volunteering or through leadership.

The OSU Extension Programs also helps local farmers like myself. As a local farmer I appreciate all of the information they have available for farmers to help in the development of their farms.

Thank you for reading this letter.

Sincerely,

Janet Tilp



THE BENEFITS OF FARM TO SCHOOL

Stay Informed

Join our network:
www.farmtoschool.org

Twitter
[@FarmtoSchool](https://twitter.com/FarmtoSchool)

Facebook
<http://on.fb.me/nfsnf2s>

Farm to school enriches the connection communities have with fresh, healthy food and local food producers by changing food purchasing and education practices at schools and preschools. Farm to school implementation differs by location but always includes one or more of the following:

Procurement: Local foods are purchased, promoted and served in the cafeteria or as a snack or taste-test.

Education: Students participate in education activities related to agriculture, food, health or nutrition.

School gardens: Students engage in hands-on learning through gardening. Farm to school empowers children and their families to make informed food choices while strengthening the local economy and contributing to vibrant communities.

Farm to school activities provide a variety of benefits to students, parents, schools, communities and food producers. This document outlines those cross-sectoral benefits and cites the the research behind them. Farm to school is growing our future leaders, consumers, producers and community members.

Cross-sectoral benefits of farm to school



PUBLIC HEALTH

Farm to school activities provide healthy food options and nutrition and food-based education to influence healthy eating behaviors and healthy lifestyles in children. Through the use of school and community gardens, farm to school can contribute to healthy neighborhoods where communities have a better understanding of how food is grown and how food affects their health and wellness.



ECONOMY

Farm to school provides economic development opportunities to producers (i.e. farmers, ranchers, fishers) and laborers, distributors, processors, cooks and foodservice staff, as well as others who support the local food system.



EDUCATION

Farm to school can support educational outcomes for students by increasing student access to healthy foods in schools and promoting educational activities that help children and families learn about and develop skills related to healthy eating. Farm to school curriculum and experiential activities are also a platform to teach core content areas such as science, math and language arts.



ENVIRONMENT

Farm to school activities can support environmentally sound, sustainable and socially just approaches to food production, processing, packaging, transportation and marketing. Farm to school activities may promote an ecological ethic among participants, develop infrastructure that supports healthy environments and promote agriculture and food distribution practices that mitigate climate change.



**NATIONAL
FARM to SCHOOL
NETWORK**

GROWING STRONGER TOGETHER

The National Farm to School Network is an information, advocacy and networking hub for communities working to bring local food sourcing and food and agriculture education into school systems and preschools.

Student Health and Achievement

Farm to school is a school-based strategy that focuses on creating a healthy school food environment.¹ Farm to school activities support children's development of healthy eating habits—such as preferences for and consumption of fruits and vegetables—while improving family food security by boosting the quality of school meal programs.²⁻⁵ Key outcomes include:

- Improvement in early childhood and K-12 eating behaviors, including choosing healthier options in the cafeteria; consuming more fruits and vegetables through farm to school meals and at home (+0.99 to +1.3 servings/day); consuming less unhealthy foods and sodas; reducing screen time; and increasing physical activity.⁶⁻³¹
- Increase in knowledge and awareness about gardening, agriculture, healthy eating, local foods and seasonality (in early childhood and K-12 settings).^{7,20-22,26,31-33}
- Demonstrated willingness to try new foods and healthier options (in early childhood and K-12 settings).^{7,20-22,30-33}
- Enhanced overall academic achievement in K-12 settings; provides children with an understanding of agriculture and the environment; and improves life skills, self-esteem, social skills and behavior.³⁴⁻³⁵

Food Service Costs, Revenue, Interest

- Increase in student meal participation from 3 percent to 16 percent (average +9 percent), thus generating increased revenue through school meals programs.^{8-9,20-21,23-25,36}
- Improvements in food service operations, such as increased cafeteria offerings of fruits and vegetables; development of new seasonal recipes; and changes in cafeteria waste management policies.^{8-9,21,23-25,36,37}
- Improvement in food service staff motivation and morale; increase in knowledge and interest in local food preparation and seasonal recipes; and increase in interactions with teachers to strengthen classroom/cafeteria connections.^{7,22,38}

Benefits for Farmers

In general, purchases from local sources increase as farm to school programming matures, with potential local sourcing of up to 50 percent of all produce purchases in season.^{7-9,20,22-23,25,36-37,39}

- Average 5 percent increase in income from farm to school sales for individual farmers.^{7,9,20,22-23,36,39}
- Increase in market diversification; positive relationships with school districts, parents and community members; farmers contracted to plant crops for schools; opportunities to explore processing and preservation methods for institutional markets; establishment of grower collaboratives or cooperatives to supply institutional markets.³⁶⁻³⁷



Community and Economy

- Increase in community awareness and interest about purchasing local foods and foods served in school cafeterias.^{7,22}
- Increase in economic activity. In one study, each dollar invested in farm to school stimulated an additional \$2.16 of local economic activity.⁴⁰
- Strengthened connections within the state's food economy.⁴⁰
- Improved household food security.⁴⁰
- Creation and maintenance of jobs; for every job created by school districts purchasing local foods, additional economic activity would create another 1.67 jobs.⁴⁰

Teachers

- Positive changes in teachers' diets and lifestyles; positive attitudes about integrating farm to school related information in curriculum.^{7,20-22,30}

Parents

- Increase in ability and interest in incorporating healthier foods in family diets and guiding children in early childhood and K-12 age groups to make healthier choices; positive changes in shopping patterns reflecting healthy and local foods.^{7,20,22,27,33}
- Increase in knowledge among parents of young children about farmers' markets in the area.³³
- Increase among young children in asking their families to make healthier purchases.³³

HB 2721: FARM TO SCHOOL AND SCHOOL GARDENS

Healthy food for healthy learning... and a healthy economy

Districts And Communities All Over Oregon are Benefitting

Twenty-six school districts have received grants so far. Highlights include:

Bend: Piloted “Boat to School” program with fish and shrimp from the Oregon coast, and brought three fishing representatives (Oregon Trawl Commission and Bornstein Seafood) inland for “Boat To School” day. Also worked with the FFA to raise, slaughter, and serve local pork: students learned the business, agricultural, and culinary side of their project from “pork to fork” and the district is able to serve local food.

Clatskanie: Using a Youth Advocates 4 Health program where teens are trained on gardening, nutrition, and food safety. Teens serve as role models and health advocates in their school and broader community.

Gladstone: Purchased primarily locally-processed breads and cut vegetables. Developed a relationship with a local farm, Livesay Farm, from which the school bought some food and where students went to plant and harvest crops in the fall and in the spring.

Molalla: High School “Culture Club” has focused on creating and cultivating a new giant courtyard garden, which has changed the culture on campus for the better, has transformed teen’s lives, and even decreased vandalism and youth problems in the community.

Roseburg: Purchased over \$3,000 in local berries and also over \$3,000 in (combined) apples and pears, plus Oregon-made breads, and lightly processed corn, beans, and other vegetables. Built a new learning garden and garden program: bought 10 yards of soil, worm bins, wheelbarrows, shovels, irrigation, teaching kits and more.

Sisters: “Feature days” in the cafeterias have highlighted local products, including: Boat to School Day featuring Oregon tuna, Oregon Burger Day featuring Oregon beef, Tillamook cheese, and Franz buns, Local Bagel Day featuring Oregon bagels, and Local Potato day featuring a potato bar.

Other participating districts in the 2013 Pilot and/or 2013-15 Grant:

Beaverton, Bethel, Centennial, Corvallis, Eugene 4J, Gladstone, Hillsboro, Joseph, Lebanon, McMinnville, North Powder, Oakridge, Ontario, Portland, Port Orford, Rainier, Salem-Keizer, Sherman, South Lane, Springfield, Yamhill-Carlton



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HB 2721-1: FARM TO SCHOOL AND SCHOOL GARDENS

Healthy food for healthy learning... and a healthy economy

Connecting Classrooms, Crops and Cafeterias

Farm to School and School Garden programs work to:

- Create market opportunities for Oregon's farmers, fishers, ranchers and food processors
- Improve youth and adults' knowledge of & attitudes toward agriculture, food and nutrition
- Increase children's consumption of fruits and vegetables and shape life-long healthy eating habits
- Bridge urban-rural divides, and bring Oregon's coastline inland
- Increase community food security by strengthening local food systems

Oregon's Farm to School Program is Working

- Legislature created positions in the Departments of Agriculture and Education in 2007 and 2008 to support farm to school and school garden programs
- Legislature created a grant program in 2011 and expanded it in 2013, to help schools to purchase foods that are produced or processed in Oregon, and to provide "agriculture, food and garden-based education"
- Funds are currently awarded by competitive grants
- Most participating districts want to continue, and new ones want to join
- Farmers and processors like selling to schools but need more stability and a stronger market

Proposed Improvements Based on Lessons Learned

To better serve producers and schools

- Give all districts a fair share of the food funds, based on school lunches served. Districts will still be required to track and report on local purchases
- Allow districts to use the funds for local foods for any school meal programs, not just lunch
- Still award the funds for "agriculture, food and garden-based education" by competitive grants, but let non-profit organizations and commodity commissions also apply
- Expand total funding to \$5.6M to benefit all districts, and to let farmers and processor count on consistent buyers

This investment will directly benefit Oregon farmers and producers, stimulating rural economies, promoting healthy eating, and stemming long-term health care costs.



**Testimony to Joint Committee on Ways and Means
Rob Drake, City Manager
City of Cornelius
April 21, 2015**

Co-Chairs, Senate and House Committee Members:

Thank you for coming to Washington County to accept testimony on the State Budget. I am here to ask for your continued financial support for the State's Infrastructure Finance Authority (IFA) program. It has been of great benefit to the City of Cornelius these past eighteen months as we have received guaranteed loan funding, low interest rates and some grant funds to drill and develop an ASR (Aquifer Storage & Recovery) well for potable water storage in the city. When I arrived three years ago, the city was investigating building a 2-million gallon above-ground reservoir. I asked the Council to let me present an ASR well concept as an alternative water storage mechanism. This technology and underground storage is identical to what we developed and utilized during my service in Beaverton during the late 1990's. The bottom line, we have completed drilling for the ASR storage well and it will store between 50-90 million gallons underground. In addition, we will be able to save considerable money by pumping the water into the ground during the winter months when we can purchase it much more cheaply from our wholesale provider, the City of Hillsboro. We will pump it out of the ground during the summer peak consumption periods.

In 2003, during my service as the Mayor of Beaverton, I also served as President for the League of Oregon Cities. I learned then from many smaller cities in the state that it has been the IFA that has loaned funds at lower interest rates for

major water, storm and sewer infrastructure projects statewide. The IFA allows the smaller, less affluent cities to afford the major infrastructure projects that are critical to the welfare and quality of life for the many smaller cities in Oregon.

Lastly, I hope the legislature will continue to consider and adopt a transportation funding package. These funds are critical to small and large cities. We believe that a healthy transportation system promotes economic development and supports a higher quality of life in many ways. In Cornelius, by Census, over 20% of our population is considered disabled. We were incorporated in 1893, the same year as Beaverton, and have considerable mobility issues for people who are disabled and must rely on wheel chairs being utilized on sidewalks for getting from one point to another. Our sidewalks, ramps and street intersections are old and getting badly broken down. We can afford only a small amount of improvements each year for projects other than laying asphalt to save the condition of our pavement. Our story is similar to other cities. Please support a reasonable transportation funding package. With copies of my testimony, I have attached a brochure outlining the formal League of Oregon Cities position on the need for funding a major transportation package.



Transportation Funding

Description

The League seeks passage of a comprehensive transportation funding and policy package to address multimodal needs, with a top priority of maintaining and preserving existing infrastructure.

Background

Oregon's road system is becoming increasingly distressed and transportation funding is not keeping up with basic maintenance and preservation needs. Cities throughout Oregon are facing serious street budget shortfalls, resulting in the deterioration of transportation infrastructure. According to a survey conducted by the League in 2014, cities face an annual funding gap of more than \$300 million per year. Uncertainty about federal funding and the decline in federal and state highway trust fund resources calls into the question the sustainability of the current transportation funding program.

In addition, Oregon's small cities (less than 5,000 population) have lagged behind larger cities in street funding. This is caused by declines in overall transportation revenue and the fact that a statutory program created to provide limited funding for small cities has not been updated since 1991.

Priority

Approval of a comprehensive transportation package containing at least the following:

- An increase in the state gas tax of up to five cents per gallon;
- Indexing of the state gas tax to the consumer price index or another relevant economic index;
- Expansion of the calculation method used for the state's transportation user fee to include vehicle miles traveled (VMT);
- An increase in license plates fees and inclusion of lightweight trailers;
- Maintaining the dedication of the state's Highway Trust Fund dollars to highway, road and street projects;
- Continued allocation of Highway Trust Fund dollars between the state, counties and cities at 50%-30%-20%, respectively;
- An increase in the statutory "Small City Allotment" fund from \$1 million to \$5 million annually, split evenly between the Oregon Department of Transportation and the cities' share of the trust fund;
- No preemption of local government ability to generate their own transportation revenues; and
- Funding for the jurisdictional transfer and maintenance of orphan highways (state highways or county roads that function as city streets).

The transportation package should also address funding and policy initiatives for all modes (streets, bike/pedestrian, transit, rail, aviation and marine) and advance connectivity, safety, jobs and economic development, transportation impact on climate change, active transportation and public health.

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