## PENDLETON ROUND-UP. HAPPY CANYON

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May 10, 2017

RE: SB 5505

Dear Senator Girod and Representative Holvey,

On behalf of the Pendleton Round-Up Association and the Happy Canyon Company, I write to express our support for Senate Bill 5505, the Blue Mountain Community College (BMCC) FARM II project before the Ways and Means Sub-Committee on Capital Construction. This project represents a community effort to create a vital educational facility that enhances student career opportunities in the livestock industry which is critical to Eastern Oregon's economy, leverages partnerships with the agricultural programs at Oregon State University by providing students a practical hands on learning experience and fostering related economic activity in Pendleton and Eastern Oregon.

As part of the Round-Up and Happy Canyon's commitment to this project, we are making our property available to BMCC via no cost, long term, lease agreements to host the FARM II educational complex. FARM II epitomizes the Round-Up and Happy Canyon's commitment to supporting youth education, promoting agriculture and bettering the economic and cultural life of Pendleton and Eastern Oregon. Additionally, we are assisting in facility management planning and fund raising activities to match 11G construction bond funding in support of FARM II.

The state's funding commitment to this project will reap rewards in a better educated work force to sustain and expand the states multi-million dollar livestock industry, and fostering research and best practices activity related to livestock production while providing a multi-purpose facility which will provide a community amenity for youth and equestrian activities.

Once again both of our organizations wholeheartedly support the FARM II initiative and request that your committee favorably consider authorizing funding for this important project.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

Sincerely,

Bill Levy President Round-Up Association

Corey M. Neištadt President Happy Canyon Co., Inc



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