

February 14, 2017

House Committee on Agriculture and Natural Resources 900 Court Street NE Salem, OR 97301

Re: HB 2038

Dear Chair Clem, members of the committee,

My name is Jerome Rosa, executive director of the Oregon Cattlemen's Association. OCA is happy to support HB 2038.

HB 2038 is good for Oregon and good for Oregon's kids. As a state that's heavily dependent on agriculture, it's a great idea to ensure that our schools are feeding kids Oregon beef, wheat, fruit and nuts. It is always good to support our local farmers and ranchers.

More importantly, grant funding that helps children understand agriculture will give our kids a better sense for how food gets to their tables and how important Oregon agriculture is locally, nationally and globally. In a time when we discuss at length the divide between urban and rural understanding, HB 2038 can be a small step in bridging that gap.

OCA thanks Representatives Clem, Brock Smith and Nosse for this effort and urge your vote in favor of HB 2038.

Thank you,

Jerome Rosa, Executive Director

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