Chair Clem and Members of the Committee,

I am a the Director of Dining Services for the Hermiston School District. I am writing on behalf of the Hermiston School District and the children in our district. I'm writing to ask you to support HB 2579, to expand funding for Oregon's Farm to School and School Garden programs. Farm to School Programs support students, farmers and communities. Specifically, I have seen it make a difference for access to fresh fruits and vegetables for our student population. This program is a Win-Win-Win for Oregon children, Oregon Farmers, and Our Community. Children gain access to nutritious fruits and vegetables, farmers are paid fair prices for their produce, and the program creates a connection between our rural communities and our urban communities.

Thank you for the consideration and for your service. Sincerely,

David Busch Director of Dining Services Hermiston School District <u>david.busch@hermistonsd.org</u> 541-667-6668 Office 541-561-7885 Cell

"Work with Passion, Rest in Reason"

NOTE: This email message and any attachments are for the sole use of the intended recipient(s) and may contain confidential and/or privileged information. Any unauthorized review, use, disclosure or distribution is prohibited. If you are not the intended recipient, please contact the sender by replying to this email, and destroy all copies of the original message.