

February 21, 2019

Oregon State Legislature  
ATTN: House Committee on Agriculture and Land Use  
900 Court St NE  
Salem, OR 97301

Dear Chair Clem and Members of the Committee,

I am the Food Service Director at the Stanfield School District. Our district currently has 510 students, including preschool. We are a small, rural community in Eastern Oregon.

I am 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 our students. They have been given the opportunity to try a variety of fruits and vegetables, they might not otherwise try. Further, we support our local economy and keep some monies in our district.

We were able to utilize this money to purchase a variety of melons, vegetables and locally grown and processed meats. Our community enjoys seeing their school district supporting their local growers and ranchers.

Thank you for the consideration and for your service.

Sincerely,

Deborah E Dever  
Food Service Director  
Stanfield, OR