

- From: Randy Kiyokawa President of Kiyokawa Family Orchards 8129 Clear Creek Rd. Parkdale, OR. 97041
- To: Chair Lively, Vice-chair Fahey, Vice-chair Bonham and Members of the Committee shs.exhibits@oregonlegislature.gov

Subject: Written testimony in favor of HB 2810

Chair Lively and Members of the Committee,

My name is Randy Kiyokawa, a third-generation farmer from Parkdale Oregon, which is in the beautiful Hood River Valley. I am writing to request your support for **HB 2810**.

HB 2810 requests a \$400,000 appropriation to help pay one-third of the pre-development expenses for the James Beard Public Market.

HB 2810 helps fund the first step to establishing James Beard Public Market, which will provide a daily, year-round venue that showcases foods and food products from Oregon and nurtures the entrepreneurial spirit of Oregon farms and food-related businesses and the jobs they create.

By supporting HB 2810, you will help bolster direct farm to table distribution, where by local farmers receive retail prices for the food they produce. This lets me earn four-times more than if I sent my apples and pears through the conventional route.

These dollars stay local and provides living wage jobs for my staff that runs the market stall as well as those that pack, pick, grade and deliver the fruit to market. Even after the market day is finished, the influence will still be felt when pounds of our fruit are donated to local food banks from unsold product. The James Beard Public Market is good for farmers and consumers!

Thank you for the consideration and for your service.

Best Regards,

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