To Sen. Lew Frederick and Rep. Susan McLain,

My name is Liam Wustenberg. I am currently a Technical Manager of Cheese Operations at Tillamook County Creamery Association. I attended OSU for my master's degree in 2009 through 2011, conducting research on fluid milk quality working with fluid milk processors around Oregon State. I am writing this testimonial regarding the Oregon State Fermentation Science Program. I believe funding should continue for this program as it has provided tremendous support for the industry in which I, and many other Oregonians have built their careers.

Specifically, I have been directly involved in hiring several successful Oregon State Fermentation Science graduates, who specifically participated in the Beaver Classic program, studying dairy processing and cheese making science. In turn, the funding for this program has directly affected the quality of the work force that I am able to hire from and I believe these young men and women being hired out of Oregon State bring tremendous value potential to our Food Industry here in Oregon.

In addition, I believe that the past support for the Oregon State Fermentation Science Program has allowed the program to grow into a regionally recognized program, which not only benefits the quality of the Oregon work force but also increases the value returned on the investment made by the State of Oregon.

I am extremely thankful for the ongoing support for the Oregon State Fermentation Science program.

Thank You for Your Time,

Liam Wustenberg Technical Cheese Manager Tillamook County Creamery Association