

House Bill 2579

Sponsored by Representative CLEM (Pre-session filed.)

SUMMARY

The following summary is not prepared by the sponsors of the measure and is not a part of the body thereof subject to consideration by the Legislative Assembly. It is an editor's brief statement of the essential features of the measure **as introduced**.

Expands types of entities that may receive grant from Farm-to-School Grant Program to purchase food produced or processed in state. Expands purposes for which grant may be used.

Creates grant to encourage and sustain successful efforts related to program.

Expands types of entities that may receive grant for food-based, agriculture-based or garden-based educational activities.

Directs Department of Education to evaluate effectiveness of program and to ensure that technical assistance and resources are provided to certain entities.

Authorizes State Department of Agriculture to provide training and make distributions of monies related to program.

Directs Department of Education to enter into agreement with Higher Education Coordinating Commission for coordination of training, research, regional support and resources.

Declares emergency, effective July 1, 2019.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

1
2 Relating to the Farm-to-School Grant Program; creating new provisions; amending ORS 336.431; and
3 declaring an emergency.

4 **Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:**

5 **SECTION 1.** ORS 336.431 is amended to read:

6 336.431. (1) The Department of Education shall administer a Farm-to-School Grant Program as
7 provided by this section.

8 (2) A school district may apply to the department for a grant as follows:

9 (a) As a noncompetitive grant to assist the school district with paying for costs incurred by the
10 school district to purchase food produced or processed in this state[; *or*].

11 **(b) As a competitive grant to encourage and sustain successful efforts to purchase or**
12 **promote food produced or processed in this state.**

13 *[(b)]* **(c)** As a competitive grant to fund food-based, agriculture-based and garden-based educa-
14 tional activities in the school district.

15 (3)(a) Based on a noncompetitive process, the department shall provide grants to *[school*
16 *districts]* **any of the following entities** to assist in paying for costs incurred by the *[school*
17 *district]* **entity** to purchase food produced or processed in this state[.]:

18 **(A) A school district.**

19 **(B) A provider of center-based programs for children in the Child and Adult Care Food**
20 **Program.**

21 **(C) An entity that provides meals through the Summer Food Service Program.**

22 **(b)** The amount of a grant awarded as provided by this subsection shall be determined by the
23 department based on the number of *[lunches]* **meals** served by the *[school district]* **entity identified**
24 **in paragraph (a) of this subsection** during the previous school year **and summer** under the
25 United States Department of Agriculture's National School Lunch Program **and Summer Food**

NOTE: Matter in **boldfaced** type in an amended section is new; matter *[italic and bracketed]* is existing law to be omitted. New sections are in **boldfaced** type.

1 **Service Program.**

2 [(b)] (c) [A school district] **An entity** that receives a grant under this subsection:

3 (A) Shall use the moneys for the costs incurred by the [school district] **entity** to purchase food
4 products that were:

5 [(A)] (i) Purchased on or after the date the [school district] **entity** received notification from the
6 Department of Education of the amount to be distributed to the [school district] **entity** as provided
7 by this subsection;

8 [(B)] (ii) Produced or processed in this state; and

9 [(C)] (iii) Used for meals that are served as part of the United States Department of
10 Agriculture's child nutrition programs.

11 **(B) May use the moneys to provide education or promotion about foods produced or
12 processed in this state.**

13 [(c)(A)] (d)(A) [A school district] **An entity that receives a grant under this subsection** may
14 not use any moneys received under this subsection to supplant purchases of food produced or pro-
15 cessed in this state that the [school district] **entity** had regularly purchased prior to the date the
16 [school district] **entity** first received a grant as provided by this subsection.

17 (B) Notwithstanding subparagraph (A) of this paragraph, [a school district] **an entity** may use
18 moneys received under this subsection to [supplant purchases of] **purchase** food produced or pro-
19 cessed in this state that the [school district] **entity** had regularly purchased prior to the date the
20 [school district] **entity** first received a grant as provided by this subsection if the food meets criteria
21 established by the State Board of Education by rule.

22 **(4) Based on a competitive process, the Department of Education shall provide grants to
23 entities identified in subsection (3)(a) of this section to encourage and sustain successful ef-
24 forts to purchase or promote food produced or processed in this state.**

25 [(4)(a)] (5)(a) Based on a competitive process, the department shall provide grants to assist in
26 paying the costs incurred to [provide] **coordinate and implement** food-based, agriculture-based or
27 garden-based educational activities in the school district. Grants may be provided to:

28 (A) School districts;

29 (B) Education service districts;

30 (C) Federally recognized Indian tribes;

31 (D) Schools overseen by the Bureau of Indian Education;

32 (E) Nonprofit organizations;

33 **(F) Providers of center-based programs for children in the Child and Adult Care Food
34 Program;**

35 [(F)] (G) Commodity commissions or councils organized under ORS 576.051 to 576.455 or ORS
36 chapter 577 or 578; or

37 [(G)] (H) Soil and water conservation districts organized under ORS 568.210 to 568.808 and
38 568.900 to 568.933.

39 (b) An entity identified in paragraph (a) of this subsection that receives a grant under this
40 subsection shall use the moneys for costs directly associated with the educational activities, in-
41 cluding staff time, travel costs and equipment purchased for the activities.

42 (c) When awarding grants under this subsection, preference shall be given to entities that pro-
43 pose educational activities that:

44 (A) Are well designed;

45 (B) Promote healthy food activities;

1 (C) Have clear educational objectives;

2 (D) Involve parents or the community;

3 (E) Are connected to a school district's farm-to-school procurement activities; and

4 (F) Are culturally relevant to the students being served by the grant moneys.

5 (d) The department must ensure that the recipients of grants under this subsection:

6 (A) Represent a variety of school sizes and geographic locations; and

7 (B) Serve a high percentage of children who qualify for free or reduced price school meals under
8 the United States Department of Agriculture's National School Lunch Program.

9 [(5)] (6) The Department of Education shall consult with the State Department of Agriculture
10 to:

11 (a) Develop rules and standards related to the grants awarded under this section.

12 (b) Determine the recipients and amounts of grants awarded under this section.

13 (c) **Evaluate the effectiveness of the Farm-to-School Grant Program, including program
14 administration and the economic impact, educational outcomes and health outcomes of the
15 program. For the purpose of conducting the evaluation, the Department of Education may
16 collaborate or enter into a contract with a public or private entity.**

17 (7) **The Department of Education shall ensure that technical assistance and resources
18 are provided to entities identified in subsections (3)(a) and (5)(a) of this section, and to any
19 other entities that would contribute to the success of the program, by entering into an
20 agreement with one or more statewide, regional or community partners to provide the
21 technical assistance and resources.**

22 (8) **For the purpose of encouraging the success of the program administered under this
23 section, the Department of Education shall enter into an agreement with the State Depart-
24 ment of Agriculture to have the State Department of Agriculture:**

25 (a) **Train persons who produce or process food in this state on how to have food products
26 approved for use by entities identified in subsection (3)(a) of this section.**

27 (b) **Distribute funding for infrastructure and equipment to persons who intend to sell
28 food produced or processed in this state to entities identified in subsection (3)(a) of this
29 section.**

30 (c) **Distribute funding to incentivize the practice of selling, at a reduced cost, surpluses
31 of food produced or processed in this state to entities identified in subsection (3)(a) of this
32 section.**

33 (9) **The Department of Education shall enter into an agreement with the Higher Educa-
34 tion Coordinating Commission to allow the Oregon State University Extension Service to
35 coordinate training, research, regional support, online resources and other resources for
36 entities identified in subsections (3)(a) and (5)(a) of this section and to any other entities that
37 would contribute to the success of the program.**

38 [(6)] (10)(a) The Department of Education may expend for the administrative costs incurred un-
39 der this section no more than two percent of all moneys received by the department for the grant
40 program.

41 (b) **The Department of Education may enter into an agreement with the State Depart-
42 ment of Agriculture and the Higher Education Coordinating Commission for the payment of
43 administrative costs incurred under this section.**

44 **SECTION 2. In addition to and not in lieu of any other appropriation, there is appropri-
45 ated to the Department of Education, for the biennium beginning July 1, 2019, out of the**

1 **General Fund, the amount of \$8,500,000, which shall be expended as provided by ORS 336.431.**

2 **SECTION 3. This 2019 Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public**
3 **peace, health and safety, an emergency is declared to exist, and this 2019 Act takes effect**
4 **July 1, 2019.**

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