

Chair Gelser and Members of the Committee:

My name is Mary Shaw. I am president of the 501(c)(3) Florence Farmers Market. I am writing to request your support for SB 440.

We are a small local food product farmers market in our fourth year of existence in Florence, Oregon. The SNAP/Double Up food bucks program is the centerpiece of our Market. In 2019, our walk-in Market had 96 families participate in our program. This was a record number of participants and we anticipated the same for the 2020 season. Because of Covid-19, we pivoted to an on-line/curbside pick up only market. This impacted our SNAP participants, only 25 families participated in the SNAP program. We plan to open our Market again to walk-in customers for the 2021 season. We anticipate returning to our 2019 level of SNAP participants. The level of 2019 funding allowed us to serve many families and offer healthy nutritious food to them. It is our hope that passage of SB 440 will support our local families once again. Thank you for the consideration and for your service.

Mary Shaw  
Florence, Oregon