

February 3, 2021

Representative Brad Witt, Chair House Committee On Agriculture and Natural Resources

Dear Chair Witt,

The Deschutes County Board of Commissioners supports HB 2785 (Directs State Department of Agriculture to establish grant program to fund upgrades to establishments expected to operate under program of state meat inspection.), HB 2786 (Directs State Department of Agriculture to study barriers to family-scale meat production and ways to promote family-scale meat production, and recommend legislative or regulatory avenues to remove identified barriers and promote family-scale meat production) and HB 2787 (Directs Department of Environmental Quality, in consultation with State Department of Agriculture, to study laws related to permitting of animal rendering facilities and provide results of study in report to interim committees of Legislative Assembly no later than September 15, 2022.).

Expanding the opportunity for local and regional meat processing capacity in Oregon will create new job opportunities across the State, which will add to the number of people employed and tax revenue from payroll taxes and capital investment.

We appreciate the opportunity to submit our input.

Please feel free to contact us if you would like additional information.

Sincerely,

The Deschutes County Board of Commissioners

Anthony DeBone

Chair

Phil Chang

Vice Chair

Patti Adair Commissioner

CC: Senators Lynn Findley, Tim Knopp, and Dennis Linthicum

Representatives Daniel Bonham, Vikki Breese Iverson, Jason Kropf and Jack Zika