Protect. Promote. Prosper.

Alexis Taylor, Director

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Chair Beyer, Vice-Chair Findley, Members of the Committee,

In support of Senate Concurrent Resolution 16 (SCR 16), I write today in memoriam: Martin Davis "Marty Myers. It was truly an honor to know and work with Marty over the years. He served nearly two terms as a member and board chair of the state Board of Agriculture, which advises the Oregon Department of Agriculture (ODA) on policy issues. As a member of the Board and the agricultural community, he helped bridge the gap between urban and rural Oregon through his work on and off the field.

When I first moved to Oregon and took on my role as Director of ODA, Marty invited me to Threemile Canyon Farms just west of Boardman, Oregon. I quickly learned the operation was much more than the well-known dairy, yet as we rode around touring the facility, Marty knew exactly what was going on in every corner. He explained the farm's "closed-loop system" that he pioneered, where nothing would be wasted. Also, detailed, computerized records are kept on every animal to monitor health, feeding, and animal welfare. When asked why he would say it's the right thing to do.

Marty's also cared deeply for the future of Oregon agriculture. He worked to protect and care for the land, the animals, the environment, and employees. Marty spent a lot of his time and resources helping to inspire the next generation of farmers by offering farm tours, scholarships, internships, and jobs in rural Morrow County, Oregon. His most memorable work was his countless hours of volunteerism and generosity in organizing systems that ensure that everyone has access to healthy, nutritious food authorizing food donations from the farm to the local food bank, and advocating for non-profits Blanchet House and the Oregon Food Bank. Marty was a mentor, colleague, and friend.

Thank you for honoring Marty Meyers with SCR 16.

Sincerely, Alexis M. Taylor