Re: Support for HB 2785

To Whom It May Concern:

Pelican Brewing was born at the beach in Pacific City in 1996. We have grown to five affiliated restaurant locations and over the past 25 years we have won over 300 beer and culinary awards. Equally important, we are proud to be an economic driver in Tillamook and Clatsop counties through our amazing team of dedicated employees.

We recognize the economic impact the food and beverage sector, and agritourism in particular, has in our region and how much it supports a more vibrant community and we also recognize the benefits of being able to prioritize buying from our local food region. One of the most significant bottlenecks for sourcing local is the lack of slaughter and meat processing facilities. Oregon's North Coast would benefit from a processing facility that could help us source and process meat for our restaurants and all restaurants along the Oregon Coast.

The grant program being considered with HB 2785 could be an economic catalyst for our region and help us buy beef from our neighbors and keep even more money in our community.

Sincerely,

Ken Henson

Director of Restaurant Operations Pelican Brewing Company

Kiwanda Hospitality

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Pelican Brewing Company – Pacific City, Tillamook, Cannon Beach Meridian Restaurant & Bar - Pacific City Stimulus Coffee + Bakery