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February 1, 2021

Oregon State Legislature
C/O: Senate Committee on Human Services, Mental Health and Recovery
900 Court St. NE
Salem, OR 97301

Re: Support for SB 440 & 555

Chair Gelser and Members of the Committee,

My name is Michael Liu. I am a grocery partner in Portland. I am writing to request your support for **SB 440 & 555**.

SB 555 and SB 440 support the expansion of Double Up Food Bucks Oregon, a SNAP incentive program with a proven record of success. For every dollar spent on SNAP-eligible foods at participating farmers markets, farm share programs, and grocery stores across the state, shoppers will receive a dollar to spend on Oregon-grown fruits and vegetables.

Fubonn Supermarket was recently selected to participate in the Oregon Food Bank Double Up Program. Our organization was extremely grateful to be selected as one of the locations. Fubonn Supermarket serves many BIPOC families in the Southeast Portland area. Our inclusion in this program could not have come at a better time with the rise of COVID-19 infections. The pandemic has disproportionately affected the BIPOC community and many are struggling to provide nutritious food for their families. Maintaining good health will help us battle this virus as we await our vaccinations and our return to a more stable environment.

Oregon Food Bank's Double Up is a well-designed program that provides a lot of positive outcomes and convenience for all participants. Encouraging grocery partners to purchase from farmers in Oregon will help keep the economic prosperity in the community. The Oregon Food Bank will be able to reach more people without the need to set up additional infrastructure. The grocery stores can continue supporting its customers with better incentives funded by the program. This program is a great use of government funds that will help families with food insecurities. But, this program is all about the end user and the SNAP recipients will be the biggest beneficiary. Instead of traveling to a food pantry or other organizations for food assistance, the SNAP recipients will be able to shop close to home and select the produce items they are used to consuming. This is a needed program and I hope the committee will see the impact these dollars have had in the community.

Thank you for the consideration and for your service.

Sincerely,

Michael Liu

Michael Liu
Managing Member
Fubonn Supermarket (Portland, OR)