



February 2, 2022

To Senate Committee on Natural Resources and Wildfire Recovery

From: Oregon Association of Conservation Districts

Re: Support for SB 1532

Chair Golden and Committee Members,

The Oregon Association of Conservation Districts (OACD) represents Oregon's 45 Soil and Water Conservation Districts (SWCDs), special districts governed by elected boards. The Districts protect and enhance soil quality, water quality and quantity, and habitat by supporting voluntary conservation in partnership with private landowners and managers as well as federal, state, and nonprofit partners.

OACD supports SB 1532 and the -2 Amendments. This bill provides funding to the Oregon State University Extension Service Center for Small Farms and Community Food Systems to hire five additional positions. Making sure that farmers have good access to expertise in how to utilize agricultural lands wisely and productively is essential.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide input into your decision-making process.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Stan Dean".

Stan Dean, Advocacy Committee Chair
Oregon Association of Conservation Districts
stan.dean@jswcd.org