



Main Office • 133 SW 2nd Ave, Ste 201 • Portland, OR 97204
Willamette Valley Office • 454 Willamette St, Ste 213 • Eugene, OR 97401
Southern Oregon Office • PO Box 2442 • Grants Pass, OR 97528

25 January, 2023

Chair Golden and Members
Senate Committee on Natural Resources
State Capitol
900 Court Street NE
Salem, OR 97301

RE: Support for SB 507 (Updating the Farm Direct Marketing Law)

Dear Chair Golden and Committee Members:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of SB 507. 1000 Friends of Oregon is a nonprofit, membership organization that has worked with Oregonians for more than 45 years to support livable urban and rural communities; protect family farms, forests and natural areas; and provide transportation and housing choices. We created our Food Systems Program in 2015 to expand our work with partner organizations throughout the state who are working together to build and strengthen robust and healthy food systems across Oregon.

Even before the creation of our Food Systems Program, we were among the large number of organizations that advocated for passage of the original Farm Direct marketing Law, HB 2336, in 2011. That law allows farmers to bring certain low risk, value-added products to farmer markets and their farm stands. The result has been a strengthening of local and regional food systems, as countless farmers and communities, particularly in rural Oregon, have benefited from the increased economic capital generated by farm to consumer sales

Now, a decade later, it is time to update and modernize the law. SB 507 offers a number of enhancements that will expand opportunities and benefits that this program brings.

We urge you to support SB 507. Thank you for consideration of our comments.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Greg Holmes".

Greg Holmes
Food Systems Program Director
1000 Friends of Oregon