

Submitter: Cody Perlmeter

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Early Childhood and Human Services

Measure: HB2728

Chair Reynolds, Vice Chairs Nguyen and Scharf, and Members of the Committee,

My name is Cody Perlmeter. I am a farmer in Veneta, OR and a resident in Walton, OR. I am writing to request your support for HB 2728.

HB 2728 supports the expansion of Double Up Food Bucks Oregon, a SNAP matching program with a proven record of success. For every dollar spent on SNAP-eligible foods at participating farmers markets, farm stands, CSA programs, and grocery stores across the state, shoppers will receive an additional dollar to spend on Oregon-grown fruits and vegetables.

The Double Up Food Bucks program has been an amazing success in past years from what I have seen and experienced both as a farmers market vendor as well as SNAP/DUFB user myself.

This program has helped my farm feed more people who would not normally be able to afford the type of high-quality, nutritional produce that Oregon's Farmers Markets has to offer. The benefits of this program ripple through the community. SNAP/DUFB customers get to support more local businesses, try new foods, take control over their health, and have a better interaction with the environment. And the added income generated through this program helps our farm and others achieve better financial stability and sustainability.

To me, it is very important that funds are secured to keep this program available for years to come. The benefits are so high, it would simply be a tragedy not to.

Thank you for the consideration and for your service.

Cody Perlmeter

Walton, Oregon