



February 4, 2023

Chair Reynolds and Members of the Committee,

My name is Two Foxes Singing (Nunpa). I am the Executive Director of AntFarm, Inc, a nonprofit youth and family organization serving Sandy, Estacada, and Molalla. I live in Northeastern Clackamas County in the Mt. Hood area.

I would like to offer my full 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.

As a rural community with a very culturally diverse population, we see a lot of lower income families that struggle to afford healthy food options. At our Farmers market, the DUFB program allows those struggling families to access those foods and more of the foods than they would be able to afford in a regular grocery store. It doesn't end there; because we are able to help our community this way, it also helps our local farmers. Especially some of our smaller farms. It builds community bonds and works to target our "food deserts" in the area. All while boosting income for our local farmers.

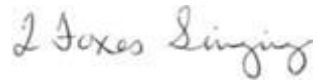
AntFarm also assists local youth with a summer work program with a large number of these youth having low income or whom are homeless. The DUFB program is extremely vital for them. At our market, these youth can come and learn more about their community farmers, make a connection, and get fresh healthy fruits and vegetables. Many of these youth will return week after week and are genuinely enthusiastic about being able to talk to the farmers and use their DUFB to get their items.

I've been working in the nonprofit sector for over 35 years and have recognized the value that healthy food has to many of our vulnerable citizens; especially those with mental health and addictions needs. Food is a basic need that changes everything. We also support a number of senior citizens whom have difficulty choosing how to spend the limited funds they receive. This program is a game changer for them. When connecting with the homeless or youth whom as known as "unaccompanied", hunger is often a significant basic struggle that interferes with day to day living. The DUFB has provided clear incentive to change the narrative on hunger and

health and provide a simple solution to helping some of our most vulnerable people receive necessary food and support.

In closing, I am thankful to the thoughtful consideration given to legislation such as this. I can personally attest to the many outcomes manifested through the DUFB. Not only does the bill provide the most basic right to having healthy food, it also provides an anchor for many other conditions and needs.

Thank you for the consideration and for your service.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Two Foxes Singing".

Two Foxes Singing, Executive Director  
AntFarm Youth and Family Services

Sandy, Estacada, and Molalla Oregon