

Chair Reynolds and Members of the Committee,

My name is Jonathan Roschke. I am a small business owner in Portland. 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.

This program is important to me because it has allowed my business to continue to support local farms in the area while now offering their foods direct to homes and families who may not have had access before. The program has also helped us deliver more boxes, creating more jobs, and increasing our orders from small and local family farms. The Oregon Food Bank has been an incredible partner to work with, and our drivers see on a daily basis the grateful and appreciative customers who are getting healthy, local produce and groceries to feed their families. Thanks to the savings from the Double Up discount, customers are able to also get rice, milk, and bread for the same price as what they would have paid before. And we are able to not only get more business as a local biz ourselves, but we pass it on to our amazing network of local farmers and food purveyors.

These past few years have been challenging. The cost of food increased by over 10% in 2022, which impacted communities already facing disparities the hardest. Many Oregonians will be losing pandemic-related food assistance after this month. Double Up Food Bucks is one important way we can support community members struggling to afford food, invest in Oregon's farmers, and support local economies.

Passing HB 2728 would mean that more Oregonians participating in SNAP would have access to fruits and vegetables. It means more grocery stores, farmers markets, and more CSAs in more corners of the state can participate.

**I urge your support for HB 2728.**

Jonathan Roschke  
Owner/Operator - Organics to You  
898 SE Stark St.  
Portland, OR 97214