

February 2, 2024

Senate Committee on Rules Oregon State Legislature 900 Court Street NE Salem, OR 97301

RE: Support for the Appointment of Lisa Charpilloz Hanson to the Oregon Department of Agriculture

Chair Lieber, Vice-Chair Knopp, and Members of the Committee:

On behalf of the Oregon Conservation Partnership (OrCP), we would like to share our strong support for the appointment of Lisa Charpilloz Hanson as the new Executive Director of the Oregon Department of Agriculture.

The Oregon Conservation Partnership is a collaboration between the Oregon Association of Conservation Districts (OACD), the Network of Oregon Watershed Councils (NOWC), the Coalition of Oregon Land Trusts (COLT) and the Oregon Conservation Education and Assistance Network (OCEAN). Collectively, we represent more than 130 land trusts, soil and water conservation districts, watershed councils and conservation organizations with a common mission to protect, restore and steward our state's natural beauty through voluntary conservation.

As the leader of the Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board (OWEB), Lisa provided statewide leadership and coordination among landowners and conservation entities to deliver voluntary conservation across all of Oregon's watersheds. She is a deep listener who spends time learning from multiple viewpoints. Lisa is a strong administrative leader with expertise in growing and supporting her staff team, while also making time for community members to participate in program creation. Over the past two years our members organizations have worked closely with her & the OWEB team to deliver acquisition and restoration projects that benefit wildlife, water & people. With her 20 years of experience in natural resource programs, the Oregon Conservation Partnership is confident in the expertise Lisa brings to the Oregon Department of Agriculture. We are pleased to see the next leader of ODA enter the position with a deep understanding of voluntary conservation programs that support watershed and soil health across on our natural and working lands.

Our partnership is united in appreciation for the value for Oregon's farms, forests and ranches, and we look forward to having Lisa at the helm of ODA to continue to advance the Oregon Conservation Strategy through voluntary measures. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

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Amanda Martino, Executive Director, Blue Mountain Land Trust Board President, Coalition of Oregon Land Trusts (COLT)

Andrea Kreiner, Executive Director, Oregon Association of Conservation Districts (OACD)

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Kristen Waltz, Board President, Network of Oregon Watershed Council (NOWC)

Cynthia Warnock

Cynthia Warnock, President of the Oregon Conservation, Education and Assistance Network (OCEAN)