

Submitter: Zach Wilson

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Agriculture, Land Use, Natural Resources, and Water

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3131

To: House Agriculture, Land Use, Natural Resources, and Water Committee
From: Wilson Cattle CO

RE: Supporting HB 3131 and \$17.3 Million in funding for the Oregon Agricultural Heritage Program (OAHP) in 2025-2027 Budget

Co-Chairs Helm and Owens, Vice-Chair Finger McDonald, and Members of the Committee:

I write to you today to share our strong support for HB 3131 and its \$17.3 million in funding the Oregon Agricultural Heritage Program (OAHP) in the 2025 Oregon Legislative Session. OAHP helps Oregon leverage a remarkable 2:1 federal match through the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) and protects working ranch and farmlands for their agriculture and natural resource values.

This program allows farmers and ranchers to help pass illiquid assets to the next generation by realizing partial equity in their land without selling part of the farm or selling to developers. It is a voluntary program that seeks to improve farm production while preserving ag land and conserving natural habitat.

Thank you,
Zach Wilson

President, Wilson Cattle Co