

Submitter: Janet Wallinder

On Behalf Of:

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

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3131

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

We 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.

We are first generation farmers purchasing our land in 1984. Over the years we have established orchard, vineyard and manage the forestland. Protecting working farm and forest land and making it available for future generation of farmers has been a core value to our work. We have been fortunate to be able to execute a conservation easement to protect the land. Funding for the OAHP will support others to protect working land and develop succession plans to support future farmers.

Janet Wallinder & Ron Webb