

Submitter: Jo Brody
On Behalf Of: Peoples Coop Farmers Market
Committee: House Committee On Agriculture, Land Use, Natural Resources, and Water
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB2979

My name is Jo Brody, and I am a People's Farmers' Market community member from [TOWN]. I am writing to strongly support HB 2979, and urge continued investment in Oregon's farmers markets, which serve as critical infrastructure for local economies, small farms, and food access programs.

The Farmers Market Climate Resilience Grant Fund and SNAP support grants have been lifelines, helping markets upgrade infrastructure, implement cooling and smoke mitigation strategies, and expand SNAP/Double Up Food Bucks programs. But demand far exceeds available funding—grant requests would have required more than double the resources OFMA has to distribute. Without renewed investment, farmers markets will struggle to continue serving their communities.

These programs impact me personally because I am committed to eating local and organic and helping my community enjoy these same health benefits. A vibrant and economically stable food Cooperative and Farmers Market is a key resource for building a healthy community.

How important is SNAP/DUFB to your market? VERY important

How important is keeping market open, in times of extreme weather and climate change? Extremely important

How important is it to you to support local farms and farmers? Of utmost importance
OFMA and Farmers Market Fund can leverage state funds to match federal funding, strengthening our farmers markets and local food systems. We cannot afford to fall behind. Please support HB 2979 to keep our markets strong, our farmers supported, and our communities fed.

Thank you,
Jo Brody
PEOPLE'S FARMERS' MARKET
423 SE 69th