

Dear Co-Chair Helm, Co-Chair Owens, and Members of the House Committee on Agriculture, Land Use, Natural Resources, and Wildfire:

My name is Teri Anne Finnerty and I am a farmers market manager in Ontario. I am writing to urge you to support HB 2979 which strongly supports Oregon's farmers markets. Farmers markets support a variety of small businesses which contribute to the local economies and provide access to locally grown food.

HB 2979 helps fund Farmers Market Climate Resilience Grant Fund and SNAP support grants that have helped markets upgrade infrastructure, implement cooling and smoke mitigation strategies, and expand SNAP/Double Up Food Bucks programs.

These programs impact me personally because as a market manager, I meet customers who benefit from the SNAP and DUFB programs through purchasing healthy, locally raised food to feed their young families which in turn supports the local farmer and small businesses.

Please support HB 2979 to help strengthen markets, support our farmers, and keep our communities fed which in turn strengthens the entire state.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Thank you,

Teri Anne Finnerty

Ontario Saturday Market

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