

My name is Daniel Redwood and I am a People's Farmers' Market community member from Portland. I strongly support HB2979 and urge continued investment in Oregon's farmers' markets, which serve as critical infrastructure for local economies, small farmers, and food access programs.

Throughout my adult life, I have relied on farmers' markets as an important part of my food purchases. These important markets provide fresh, healthy food as well as an opportunity to meet *and support* the individuals and groups who lovingly grow and sell their produce. The presence of these farmers and farmers' markets is an integral and in my view quite admirable aspect of the Oregon food system. For these reasons, and also because I support making this food available to people whose situation (unlike mine) qualifies them for SNAP, I strongly urge you to support House Bill 2979.

HB 2979 also provides needed funding for the Oregon Farmers' Market Climate Resilience Grant Fund, OCFSN's Farmer and Rancher Disaster Resilience Fund Grant Program, and for ICFSN's Food Hub Climate Resilience and Worker Safety Grant Fund.

I teach nutrition at the University of Western States and include content about the importance of farmers' markets in my classes.

Daniel Redwood