

Submitter: Jennifer Eykamp

On Behalf Of:

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

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB2979

Dear Members of the House Committee on Agriculture, Land Use, Natural
Resources, and Water,

I am writing in support of HB 2979 because of its positive impacts on small farmers, healthy communities, and access to fresh food and produce. I live in Portland and benefit from the numerous farmers' markets around the city, especially the year-round market at People's Co-op.

These markets give me the chance to get to know the people who are providing me with food and are the very opposite of factory farms. These farmers are stewarding Oregon's land for future generations and are a resource for how to adapt to a changing climate.

Equally important is the opportunity for lower-income Oregonians to be able to obtain healthy, nutritious food. The SNAP support grants benefit both farmers and shoppers by doubling food dollars for people with limited incomes. Access to fresh fruits and vegetables is essential for a healthy diet and the SNAP program is an ideal way to make it affordable.

OFMA and the Farmers Market Fund can leverage state funds to match federal funding, strengthening our farmers markets and local food systems. Please support HB 2979 to support our farmers, our farmers' markets, and our communities.

Thank you,
Jennifer Eykamp