

Submitter: Zoe Bradbury DeSurra
On Behalf Of: Valley Flora Farm
Committee: House Committee On Agriculture, Land Use, Natural
Resources, and Water
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB2979

Dear Committee Members,

My name is Zoë Bradbury DeSurra and I own and manage, Valley Flora, a thriving foodhub on the rural southern Oregon coast. Our foodhub works with 7 local farmers, ranchers and wildcrafters to distribute fresh produce, fruit, eggs and value-added products to our community between Brookings and Coos Bay.

Our organization received a Foodhub Worker Safety Grant last year, which enabled us to make significant investments in workplace improvements in our packing facility, including: stainless steel rolling work tables, steel dollies, handtrucks, circulation fans, fatigue mats, gloves, folding tables, rolling carts, and reusable totes. These improvements were such gamechangers that we were inspired to spend additional out-of-pocket funds to further enhance the ergonomics, safety and efficiency of our packing shed. This is a fantastic grant program that answers the needs of under-resourced foodhubs that are working hard to provide food security and resiliency to all kinds of communities around the state.

I encourage you to support HB 2979 and dedicate additional funds to this invaluable program.

Thank you!

Zoë