

Submitter: Janet Wallinder

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Joint Committee On Ways and Means Subcommittee On
Natural Resources

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB5039

Co-Chair Frederick, Co-Chair Levy, and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of the Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board's (OWEB) 2025-2027 budget, especially the inclusion of funding for the Oregon Agricultural Heritage Program (OAHP).

We write to you today to share our strong support for \$17.3 million in funding OAHP in the 2025 Oregon Legislative Session. OAHP helps Oregon leverage a remarkable 2:1 federal match through programs including the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) and protects working ranch and farmlands for their agriculture and natural resource values.

We are farmers in Clackamas County. One of our major concerns has been to protect farm land for future generations including keeping it affordable for the next generation. We have worked with Oregon Agricultural Trust to add a conservation easement to achieve our goals of preserving working farm and forest land. Funding of the OAHP would support farmers preserving farm land for future generations and assist in succession planning.

We urge your support of OAHP funding in the OWEB budget.

Thank You

Jan Wallinder & Ron Webb