

Submitter: Kristen Werner  
On Behalf Of:  
Committee: Senate Committee On Natural Resources and  
Wildfire  
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB887

Dear Chair Golden, Vice- Chair Nash and Members of the Committee:

My name is Kristen Werner and I am writing in support of SB 887 to create an Organic Policy Specialist position at the Oregon Department of Agriculture (ODA).

I feel strongly that we need to prioritize the Organic agriculture industry with this funding. Countless studies have proven that organic farming leads to healthier soils, cleaner water, more biodiversity and healthier communities. Organic farmers have never been able to compete on a level playing field with chemical agriculture - this would be one small step in correcting that.

This position would lead the facilitation, marketing, and trade of organic products, and ensure inner- & inter-agency integration of policies supporting organic practices.