

## **Northwest Agricultural Cooperative Council**

## **TESTIMONY**

March 10, 2025

## Support SB 94 - Increasing the Gross Vehicle Weight Limit for Milk Trucks

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of Senate Bill 94, which would increase the gross vehicle weight limit for bulk liquid dairy products from 105,500 pounds to 129,000 pounds on select routes in Oregon.

Northwest Agricultural Cooperative Council (NWACC) is the professional organization of farmer—owned businesses operating in Washington and Oregon. NWACC advocates on behalf of agricultural cooperatives. Dairy is an important part of NWACC and is critical to Oregon's economy and food supply. However, current weight limits put Oregon at a competitive disadvantage compared to neighboring states of Washington and Idaho, which already allow 129,000-pound trucks. Passing SB 94 would modernize our transportation system and bring Oregon in line with the regional standard.

## Why SB 94 Matters:

- Fewer Trucks on the Road Increasing the weight limit means fewer trips, reducing traffic congestion, emissions, and fuel use.
- Reduced Road Wear Trucks carrying 129,000 pounds distribute weight across more axles, decreasing roadway stress.
- Improved Efficiency & Sustainability Dairy producers can transport milk more efficiently, lowering costs.
- Enhanced Safety –fewer trucks mean fewer crashes.
- Data-Driven Approach The bill only applies to specific routes with the necessary infrastructure, allowing Oregon to evaluate its effectiveness before further expansion.

SB 94 is a common-sense solution that improves transportation efficiency and reduces environmental impacts. I urge your support for this bill.