

Submitter: David Wieland  
On Behalf Of: 12 Million for Farm to School  
Committee: Joint Committee On Ways and Means Subcommittee  
On Education  
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB5515

"Joint Committee On Ways and Means Subcommittee On Education  
Oregon State Capitol  
900 Court Street NE  
Salem, Oregon 97301

3/4/25

Co-Chairs Senator Sollman and Representative Ruiz and members of the  
Committee,

My name is David Wieland, Policy Advocate at Partners for a Hunger Free Oregon. I  
am writing in support of an increase to the Farm to School Grant Program in the  
Oregon Department of Education's budget.

Farm to School is an essential partner to our state's adoption of universal meal  
programs that ensure access to meals at no cost. Farm to school funding is important  
for addressing food insecurity because it helps students eat healthier food and learn  
about local food. These programs also support local economies.

Farm to school funding and programs ensure that students eat more fruits and  
vegetables, and make healthier food choices at home, result in improved educational  
outcomes, change children's relationship to food for the better, and supports local  
farms and businesses. Education is a core element of farm-to-school success and  
can help achieve the behavior change in youth needed for increased acceptance of  
school meals, better health outcomes, and improved food security.

I ask that you support including this grant program in the Oregon Department of  
Education's budget at \$12 million so this program can continue to support healthy  
kids, schools and communities. Thank you for your time.

David Wieland  
Policy Advocate  
Partners for a Hunger Free Oregon