

Submitter: Kristy Athens

On Behalf Of:

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

Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB5502

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

3-24-25

Co-Chairs Senator Frederick and Representative Levy and members of the
Committee:

I am writing in support of the Farm to School Equipment and Infrastructure Grant Program in the Oregon Department of Agriculture's budget. This Grant program provides funding for food producers to access necessary equipment to meet the demands of the school marketplace.

I work with Oregon farmers and ranchers to get their products into Eastern Oregon school cafeterias, and I see how expensive infrastructure investments would help small farms level up and be able to provide more product to schools.

Supporting this and other Farm to School programs benefits our children as well as our local economy. It's a win-win that is difficult to deny.

I ask that you support this grant program in the Oregon Department of Agriculture's budget at \$1 million. Thank you for your time.

Kristy Athens
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