

Submitter: Michelle ODriscoll  
On Behalf Of: Springbank Farm  
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

March 24th, 2025

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

I am writing on behalf of Springbank Farm 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.  
Our farm sells to multiple school districts and these grants have helped businesses  
like ours in securing contracts with schools as well as build the infrastructure required  
to provide adequate processing that schools require for food safety standards.  
We grow Organic Blueberries. We hope to receive this grant funding to secure an on  
farm wash station and freezer for storing our perishable crop, so students can eat  
frozen organic local blueberries throughout the year.

Currently our larger wholesale buyers have become very unstable in priorities to  
support local farms and farm to school dollars create a direct line of sales for us that  
fit our scale.

We support this grant program because....

- In Oregon, there is a significant need for food producers to be equipped to  
meet the growing demand from schools for local products.
- Schools and child care centers have specific requirements for products in  
regards to quantities, delivery, storage and food safety.