

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

March 25, 2025

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

I'm writing on behalf of Amza Superfoods, LLC, supporting the Farm to School Equipment and Infrastructure Grant Program in the Oregon Department of Agriculture's budget. This grant program provides critical funding for food producers to acquire necessary equipment to meet the demands of the school marketplace.

Amza Superfoods specializes in nutritious, sustainably sourced Tibetan-inspired foods **packaged with nutrition, not sugar**. We want to expand access to healthy, locally produced products for schools and childcare centers.

Food producers like Amza face unique challenges in scaling their operations to meet institutional requirements, including storage, food safety, and distribution logistics. **This grant program is essential in helping small and mid-sized producers overcome these barriers.**

We support this grant program because:

1. It addresses a significant barrier for small and mid-sized producers selling to schools.
2. It provides financing to scale, ensuring students access fresh, locally sourced food.
3. Schools and childcare centers have specific requirements regarding quantities, delivery, storage, and food safety, and this program helps producers meet those demands.
4. Increased funding will allow food producers to participate in the school food market, creating stronger local food systems and economic opportunities for Oregonians.

We ask that you support this grant program in the Oregon Department of Agriculture's budget at \$1 million. Investing in this program will strengthen Oregon's local food economy, support small producers, and improve students' access to healthy foods across Oregon.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,
Jolma Ren



Founder, [Amza Superfoods](#), LLC
Portland, OR 97213