



Mr. Hayden Bush | *Instructor and FFA Advisor*

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Esteemed Chairs and Members of the Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony. My name is Hayden Bush, and I'm proud to serve as the agricultural science and technology teacher and FFA advisor at Tillamook High School, home to the largest agriculture program in the state of Oregon. I also have the privilege of working with students year-round through their Supervised Agricultural Experiences (SAEs), helping them connect classroom learning to real-world applications in our community's industries.

Because of Oregon's investment in FFA and Career & Technical Education, I've been able to engage a broad and diverse group of students—from those preparing to work in production agriculture and natural resources to those building leadership, communication, and technical skills through FFA competitions and career development events. These experiences are life-changing for many of our students, especially those who come from rural or underserved backgrounds.

The Oregon FFA Support funding has directly removed financial and logistical barriers, giving students access to events, training, and leadership development they might not otherwise receive. Through the Summer Ag Ed Days Grant, I've been able to provide summer instruction and support to students working on their SAEs—many of whom are raising livestock, working on farms, or developing agribusinesses. These projects not only grow technical skills but also build work ethic, responsibility, and a connection to our local economy.

CTE Revitalization and Career Pathway grants have also kept our program aligned with the needs of the industry. We've been able to upgrade equipment and expand course offerings to include welding, mechanics, fabrication, and natural resources—ensuring our students are prepared for high-skill, high-wage, high-demand careers.

I sincerely appreciate the Legislature's continued support of these programs and respectfully urge funding these Grants-In-Aid at their current service level. These programs are an investment not just in education—but in the future workforce and leadership of our state. Thank you for your time and for your continued investment in Oregon's youth.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Hayden Bush". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Hayden Bush

THS Agricultural Sciences and Industrial Technology Instructor and FFA Advisor
President-Elect, Oregon Agriculture Teachers Association

*Personal Leadership | Animal Science | Plant Science | Food Science
Welding/Fabrication/Manufacturing | Automotive | Construction and Woodshop | Robotics*