

Submitter: Christine Grubb

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

Date: March 27, 2025

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

I am writing on behalf myself and my community 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.

I support this grant program because....

It addresses a significant barrier for small and mid-sized producers selling to schools. This program is unique and valuable to food producers who aspire to enter the school food market.

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.

Supporting local farmers who in turn provide healthy, local foods to young people through schools, day care centers, etc. strengthens all in the community: health wise, financially and through interconnectedness. Healthy communities are strong communities.

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

Christine Grubb

Mother of 4 healthy adult children, grandmother of 3 semi-healthy grandchildren

Jacksonville, OR