Submitter: Sue Nackoney

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

March 28, 2025

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

I am writing on behalf of Gentle Rain 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.

I am a certified organic vegetable farmer who sells to the public at farmers markets. I support this program because children need healthy food and to know where their food comes from, which ideally would be local farms who offer healthy, nutrient rich fresh foods. Small and middle sized farms have the opportunity to supply through this program, and this funding is supportive of these farms viability.

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

Sue Nackoney Gentle Rain Farm Boring, Oregon