

Submitter: Julia Bott

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Joint Committee On Ways and Means Subcommittee  
On Education

Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB5525

Dear Committee Members,

Please Support HB 2408 and fully-fund OSU Statewide Public Service Programs which includes OSU Extension Service, Agricultural Experimental Station, branch stations and Forestry Research Lab.

Our rural Curry County of 23,000 has 66 Master Gardener volunteers who work in all 3 school districts, provide numerous public presentations at libraries and organization's' meetings, and host numerous plant clinics. The OSU Extension Service and related programs provide the training and resources that allow us to provide these services to the public.

Locally the voters support our local Extension office through funding measures, in great part because their funds are being matched by state funding that provides the training and expert knowledge to help us help our community.

We understand that you have tough budget decisions. However, being fiscally responsible means making smart fiscal decisions. Funding the OSU Public Service Program is a smart decision that will pay off for the citizens of Oregon.

Thank you for your consideration.

Julia Bott

Treasurer, Curry County Master Gardener Association