

Submitter: Angelica Estrada

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Joint Committee On Ways and Means

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB5006

Testimony in Support of HB 5006

Dear Chair and Members of the Committee,

My name is Angelica, and I am writing in strong support of HB 5006, which appropriates crucial funds from the General Fund to the Emergency Board for allocations during the biennium.

As someone who is actively engaged in local food systems, I want to highlight the essential role farmers play not only in our economy but in the health, resilience, and sustainability of our communities. Farmers are the backbone of our food supply. They provide us with nourishment, steward the land, and sustain rural economies. Their labor is foundational—yet too often undervalued and under-resourced.

Many small and mid-sized farms, particularly those practicing sustainable and regenerative agriculture, operate on thin margins and face mounting pressures from climate change, rising costs, and market instability. These farms are essential to our local food security, and yet they often struggle to access the resources they need to survive, let alone thrive.

By ensuring the Emergency Board is equipped to allocate funds when and where they're most needed, HB 5006 can help safeguard Oregon's agricultural communities in times of crisis or urgent need. Whether facing extreme weather events, disruptions in supply chains, or economic volatility, farmers deserve to know that the state stands ready to support them.

I urge you to pass HB 5006 and ensure that Oregon remains responsive and responsible in its support of those who feed us, care for our land, and help build more resilient communities for all.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,
Angelica Estrada
Portland, Oregon