

Submitter: Amy Kaser

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Joint Committee On Ways and Means Subcommittee  
On Education

Measure, Appointment or  
Topic: SB5525

Co-Chair Sollmon, Co-Chair Ruiz, and members of the Ways and Means Committee,

My name is Amy Kaser, and I farm with my family on a wheat and cattle farm east of The Dalles. Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments in support of the Oregon State University Statewide Public Service Programs, including the Extension Service, Agricultural Experiment Station, and Forest Research Laboratory. These programs play a vital role in addressing real-world problems and providing research and education to all Oregonians.

As farmers, we rely on the Extension Service to bring us and our employees continuing education right where we live. We are able to keep up with pesticide trainings, crop advances, and important research. Our local agent in Wasco County developed a Farmer's First Aid class that he offered right here in town, and I was able to get myself and my entire crew Red Cross certified for CPR and First Aid, along with training in two other annual OSHA required safety trainings. Extension annually puts on crop tours and brings the researchers to us for grain variety trials, disease outlook, and required trainings for maintaining our pesticide applicators' licenses. The Agricultural Research Station helps farmers stay one step ahead of the latest threats to our crops like disease, insects, and herbicide resistance. These services are critical to keeping our food supply stable.

I ask for your support of the OSU Statewides request for \$207.2 million to sustain current operations, build capacity, and invest in a more resilient future for Oregon communities, food systems, and natural resources.