A-Engrossed House Bill 3476

Ordered by the House April 18 Including House Amendments dated April 18

Sponsored by Representative KOTEK; Representatives BARNHART, BOONE, BOQUIST, BRUUN, CANNON, CLEM, COWAN, DALLUM, D EDWARDS, GILLIAM, GIROD, HANNA, HUNT, KOMP, MERKLEY, MINNIS, OLSON, ROSENBAUM, SCHAUFLER, TOMEI, WHISNANT, WITT

SUMMARY

The following summary is not prepared by the sponsors of the measure and is not a part of the body thereof subject to consideration by the Legislative Assembly. It is an editor's brief statement of the essential features of the measure.

Directs Department of Education to establish farm-to-school program. Directs department to reimburse school districts for meals that utilize [food produced or processed in] Oregon agricultural products.

Appropriates moneys from General Fund to department for purpose of administering program and reimbursements.

[Declares emergency, effective July 1, 2007.]

A BILL FOR AN ACT

2 Relating to farm-to-school program; and appropriating money.

Whereas farm-to-school programs have been shown to result in increased market opportunities for farmers, food processors and manufacturers, to support economic development and to educate children and the school community about agriculture and food systems; and

Whereas farm-to-school programs have been shown to increase children's consumption of produce, thereby improving childhood nutrition and lessening the incidence of obesity and obesity-related disease; and

Whereas these programs, by decreasing the distance between producer and consumer, also reduce the emission of greenhouse gases and reliance on oil; and

Whereas the Legislative Assembly finds that it is in the best interest of Oregon children, farmers, food processors, manufacturers and communities to empower schools to increase their use of Oregon agricultural products in their school food service programs; now, therefore,

Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:

<u>SECTION 1.</u> (1) The Department of Education shall establish a farm-to-school program. Through the farm-to-school program, the department shall:

- (a) Assist school districts in utilizing Oregon agricultural products and produce from school gardens;
 - (b) Evaluate the effects of the farm-to-school program;
- (c) Coordinate the farm-to-school program with local school district wellness policies required by the United States Department of Agriculture;
- (d) Reimburse school districts that utilize Oregon agricultural products up to seven cents for every meal served as part of the National School Lunch Program or School Breakfast Program; and
 - (e) Perform other activities as needed to facilitate the success of the farm-to-school

NOTE: Matter in **boldfaced** type in an amended section is new; matter [italic and bracketed] is existing law to be omitted. New sections are in **boldfaced** type.

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