

800 NE Oregon Street
Portland, OR 97232

Voice: (971) 673-0040

FAX: (971) 673-0071

TTY-Nonvoice: (971) 673-0372

March 11, 2013

TO: The Honorable Laurie Monnes Anderson, Chair
Senate Health Care and Human Services Committee

FROM: Sue Woodbury, Program Manager
Nutrition & Health Screening (WIC) Program
Public Health Division
Oregon Health Authority

SUBJECT: SB 757

Chair Monnes Anderson and Members of the Committee:

My name is Sue Woodbury, Program Manager for the Nutrition and Health Screening Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC) in the Oregon Health Authority (OHA), Public Health Division, Center for Prevention and Health Promotion. I am pleased to provide written testimony today to give information on Senate Bill 757.

WIC administers Oregon's Farm Direct Nutrition Programs (FDNP), which focus on encouraging WIC families and low-income seniors to eat locally grown fresh fruits and vegetables. These seasonal programs provide a one-time benefit in the form of \$4 checks for recipients to spend at local farmers' markets and farm stands from June through October each year.

SB757 gives OHA the authority to operate the Senior Farm Direct Nutrition Program (SFDNP) for low-income senior citizens. It is our understanding this bill seeks to give OHA (WIC) authorization to expend the state GF dollars and operate the Senior Farm Direct Nutrition program should there be a situation in which there is no federal program. We faced this issue when the Farm Bill expired in fall 2012, and with it the provision for the Senior FDNP, which has since been extended for 2013. This bill is also a companion bill to HB 2992 for which I will give oral testimony on Thursday, March 14th.

OAR 333-052 sets out the administrative rules currently in place to administer SFDNP in Oregon. This bill would require changes in the OARs as they are currently written.

We recommend the following amendments:

In Section 1:

- Replace existing text of 1(a) with “Refer to OAR 333-052-0043 for definition of ‘eligible seniors’”.
- Replace existing text of 1(b) with “Refer to OAR 333-052-0060 for definition of ‘authorized farmers’”.

In Section 2: Replace “approved farm product outlets” with “authorized farmers at farmers’ markets and roadside stands.”

In Section 3: Delete section (c).

Center for Prevention and Health Promotion staff and I will be happy to be a resource to the committee if they have any questions. Thank you for the opportunity to provide written testimony today.