

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: No fiscal impact

Action:	Do Pass as Amended and Be Printed Engrossed
Vote:	5 - 0 - 0
Yeas:	Knopp, Kruse, Shields, Steiner Hayward, Monnes Anderson
Nays:	0
Exc.:	0
Prepared By:	Sandy Thiele-Cirka, Administrator
Meeting Dates:	3/11, 3/18

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Authorizes Oregon Health Authority to operate Senior Farm Direct Nutrition Program (SFDNP) by providing financial support in specified circumstances. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- State and federal partnership with SFDNP
- Impact of Congressional inaction
- Importance of state maintaining voucher distribution

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: Specifies Senior Farm Direct Nutrition Program.

BACKGROUND: The federal Senior Farm Direct Nutrition Program distributes vouchers to qualified Oregon seniors to purchase locally grown fruits, vegetables, and herbs from certified farms at farmers markets and farm stands. This federal program is authorized by the Farm Bill and administered on the federal level by the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), and by the Oregon Health Authority (OHA) on the state level. The program uses both state and federal funds for the vouchers.

In October 2012, the federal authorization for this program lapsed due to the expiration of the 2008 Farm Bill. While this was remedied, SB 757-A prevents the lapse from happening again by authorizing OHA to operate the program in the absence of the federal authorization.