

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: Minimal fiscal impact, no statement issued

Action: Do Pass the A-Engrossed Measure
Vote: 4 - 0 - 1
Yeas: Knopp, Kruse, Steiner Hayward, Monnes Anderson
Nays: 0
Exc.: Shields
Prepared By: Sandy Thiele-Cirka, Administrator
Meeting Dates: 4/23

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Authorizes Oregon Health Authority operate Farm Direct Nutrition Program to participants in Women, Infants and Children Program (WIC) to purchase fresh produce at farmers' markets or roadside stands and to operate Senior Farm Direct Nutrition Program to low-income seniors to purchase fresh produce at farmers' markets or roadside stands.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Direct marketing and local farmers
- Access to nutritious produce
- Positive impact of Farmers' Markets and roadside stands

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: No amendment.

BACKGROUND: Currently, Oregon offers two state-administered federal nutrition programs providing opportunities for farmers to sell directly to consumers. The Farm Direct Nutrition Program distributes funds to seniors (identified by Seniors & People with Disabilities Division as of April 1 each year) and families enrolled in the Women Infants & Children (WIC) program. Eligible participants will receive these funds as checks specifically to purchase locally produced fresh fruit and vegetables directly from authorized farmers at farm stands and farmers markets from June 1 to October 31 of each year.