



Professional Administrative Services, Inc.

Public Affairs Management Specialists

Statement in Support of SB 1541
John McCulley
Representing Tree Fruit Growers and Northwest Farm Credit Services
February 5, 2014

The Columbia Gorge Fruit Growers, an organization of pear, cherry and apple growers and shippers (<http://www.cgfg.org>) and Northwest Farm Credit Services, a cooperative lending organization with 11 branch offices in Oregon (<https://www.northwestfcs.com>) strongly support SB 1541.

As I hope committee members know, Oregon farmers and ranchers are stepping forward in a big way to help ease the hunger crisis faced by many Oregonians. These food producers work with Farmers Ending Hunger and a number of local food banks to share the bounty of their operations.

At the same time, there are so many more producers who could provide food and who may need just a small incentive to “get in the game.” We believe SB 1541 will encourage them to do just that. The small tax credit in SB 1541 could have a big impact on reducing food insecurity and the attendant issues such as insecurity creates in families.

We urge support for the reinstatement of the crop donation tax credit as an important tool that benefits Oregon’s farmers and food-challenged families.