



CITY OF
PORTLAND, OREGON

Charlie Hales, Mayor
Amanda Fritz, Commissioner
Nick Fish, Commissioner
Dan Saltzman, Commissioner
Steve Novick, Commissioner

February 5, 2014

Senator Ginny Burdick, Chair
Senate Committee on Finance and Revenue
900 Court St. NE, Hearing Room A
Salem, OR 97301

Re: Support for Senate Bill 1541

Dear Chair Burdick and Members of the Committee:

We write in support of SB 1541, which creates a state tax credit for crop donations. This legislation benefits urban and rural communities alike.

Food insecurity is a major issue for many Oregonians and access to fresh and local foods is especially difficult. Many local farmers and producers want to donate crops but the costs of doing so can be prohibitively expensive. Whether wholesaling or donating, local farmers and producers must still cover the costs of harvesting, transportation and storage. SB 1541 creates a tax credit for Oregon farmers and producers valued at 15 percent of the wholesale price of the donated food product. This credit will help Oregon's farmers overcome some of the barriers that stand between fresh local food and Oregonians experiencing hunger.

SB 1541 supports local farmers while taking an important step toward addressing food insecurity. We urge your support for SB 1541.

Sincerely,

Charlie Hales
Mayor

Amanda Fritz
Commissioner

Nick Fish
Commissioner

Dan Saltzman
Commissioner

Steve Novick
Commissioner