



WWW.GORGEGROWN.COM PO BOX 752, HOOD RIVER, OR 97031 P : 541-490-6420 F : 541-386-1203

Re: Gorge Grown Food Network letter of support of SB320, the Home Baking Bill

February 13, 2015

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing on behalf of the Gorge Grown Food Network, a nonprofit organization based in Hood River, in support of legislation SB 320, the Home Baking Bill to deregulate baking business grossing less than \$20,000/ year from the direct sale of non-potentially hazardous baked goods.

We support this legislation because we wish to strengthen the local food system of the Columbia River Gorge, and increase local economic opportunities for our community members.

When a community can produce more locally, and meet the needs of their residents, everyone benefits greatly—economically, socially, and culturally. Moreover, rural communities struggle economically, as there are less economic outlets. Many of our residents would benefit from the ability to start home-based food businesses without costly and time consuming licensing requirements. Selling these goods at our farmers' markets and other outlets would be an excellent opportunity to grow our local food system, the local economy, and small businesses throughout our region.

We are happy to support this legislation.

Sincerely,

Sarah Sullivan
Executive Director
Gorge Grown Food Network

Gorge Grown Board of Directors

Janeal Boorean - Cindy Brown - Paul Brown - Tonia Farman - Paul Hickman - Lauren Kraemer - Dave Mason - Kathy Watson