

STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY**Senate Committee On Human Services and Early Childhood****Fiscal:** Fiscal impact issued**Revenue:** No Revenue Impact**Action Date:** 04/14/15**Action:** Do Pass With Amendments. Refer To Ways And Means By Prior Reference
(Printed A-Eng).**Meeting Dates:** 04/02, 04/14**Vote:**

Yeas: 5 - Dembrow, Gelser, Kruse, Monnes Anderson, Olsen

Prepared By: Chenyenne Ross, Committee Administrator**WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:**

Appropriates General Fund dollars to Oregon Health Authority (OHA) to assist Senior Farm Direct Nutrition Program (FDNP) recipients and Women, Infants and Children (WIC) FDNP recipients with purchase of fresh local foods. Appropriates \$200,000 for seniors, \$100,000 for WIC, and \$200,000 to the Emergency Board for OHA to match federal grant funds, expand programs, or otherwise support purchase of fresh foods. Declares emergency, effective July 1, 2015.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Support for vouchers
- Family trips to farms; value in experience as well as ability to purchase fresh foods
- Cooking demonstrations, nutritional awareness, learning experience for families
- Taking the farm experience home; family members cooking together
- Variety and quality of fresh foods available for purchase
- Relationships between farmers and consumers

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:

Appropriates \$200,000 for seniors, \$100,000 for Women, Infants and Children, and \$200,000 to the Emergency Board for the Oregon Health Authority to match federal grant funds, expand programs, or otherwise support purchase of fresh foods.

BACKGROUND:

Senior and Women, Infants and Children (WIC) Farm Direct Nutrition Programs (FDNPs) incentivize the purchase of fresh produce and promote healthy eating. These programs issue vouchers for fresh produce that, in turn, support local agriculture by connecting over 700 small and mid-sized Oregon farmers with consumers. Allocating funds to support these programs also positions Oregon to compete for a federal Food Insecurity Nutrition Incentive grant, which could match state dollars for fruits and vegetables in farmers markets and grocery stores, potentially doubling the value of the state's investment.

Senate Bill 700-A provides additional funds for the WIC and Senior FDNPs that benefit both consumers and local farmers. The measure also sets aside funds to ensure Oregon is eligible to pursue federal match opportunities.