From:	Manager
То:	JWMHS Exhibits
Cc:	Peter Brandom
Subject:	Keep FDNP at current levels, do NOT accept Gov. Brown"s budget discontinue recommendation
Date:	Wednesday, March 08, 2017 4:09:09 PM

Dear Committee Members,

On behalf of the board and the staff of the Hillsboro Farmers' Market, I wish to express our concern over Governor Brown's budget decision to discontinue the onetime appropriations for the Oregon Farm Direct Nutrition Program (FDNP). This amounts to a loss of \$300,000, leaving just \$259,558 for the program in 2017-19 biennium. We do not support the Governor's recommendation and would ask that the Joint Ways and Means Committee on Human Services continue to support the FDNP at the current appropriations. Farmers in the state, and particularly in our rich agricultural region, cannot bear another hurdle of reduced revenue for their locally grown fresh fruits and vegetables. Equally, and just as important, low income families with young children, and aging seniors, should not be short-changed in obtaining nutritious produce that helps them live healthier lifestyles to assist them in preventing diet related diseases.

Sincerely, Suzanne Monroe-Santos, Market Manager Hillsboro Farmers' Market