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Honorable Senator Ginny Burdick, Co-Chair  
Honorable Representative Ann Lininger, Co-Chair  
Joint Committee on Marijuana Regulation  
Oregon State Legislature

Re: Support for HB 2198-Sections 312a-312o

Dear Madame Co-Chairs and Committee Members,

With the Oregon Department of Agriculture's support, I support HB 2198, Sections 312a-312o, moving the regulation of marijuana growers under the Oregon Department of Agriculture (ODA). It has been a wonderful experience working with ODA over the past several years developing the Oregon Industrial Hemp Program. ODA staff and personnel have gained tremendous knowledge on the genus *Cannabis* and the overall cultivation of the plant. Everyone I have worked with at ODA is helpful, hard-working, and available to answer questions that arise as we navigate through program implementation.

As Oregon's *Cannabis* programs develop, it is important to recognize that the work of marijuana growers is agriculture. Marijuana growers should be treated as farmers, subject to regulation by the Oregon State Department of Agriculture. ODA regulates agricultural production in the state, pesticide testing, etc, and is the appropriate agency to regulate all *Cannabis* cultivation.

Any funds that are/would be allocated to OHA (or OLCC) for the implementation of the portion of the programs regulating marijuana growers, would be allocated to ODA to implement regulating marijuana growers. Application, registration and renewal of registration fees would also provide funding to the Department for administration of the program.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Courtney N. Moran".

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