



OREGON STATE GRANGE

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Representative Brian Clem, Chair
House Committee on Agriculture and Natural Resources
900 Court St. NE, Room 347
Salem, Oregon 97301

Re: Support for HB 3249 Oregon Agriculture Heritage Program

Dear Chair Clem and Committee Members,

This letter is in unqualified support of the Oregon Agricultural Heritage Program (HB 3249). The Oregon State Grange is in strong support of the goals of this program, having long supported policies that protect agricultural lands, family farms, and conservation of natural resources. This collaborative effort between many statewide organizations, working together to protect working agricultural lands, on which we all depend, will help on many fronts.

It is vitally important that Oregon farmers and ranchers plan for succession and preserve their land for future generations, and this program will bring resources to help individual farmers accomplish this. There has been a long-identified need for a state program to keep agricultural land in production, help agricultural landowners conserve their lands and pass them on to the next generation, and protect and enhance fish and wildlife habitat on working lands.

Please give this bill your support and move forward with the foundation of this program that will bring federal grant funds, organization, and resources to these important efforts.

Thanks you for this opportunity to provide supporting testimony for HB3249,

Jay Sexton
Agriculture Committee Director
Oregon State Grange