

**Re: Support for HB 3249 Oregon Agriculture Heritage Program**

Dear Committee Members,

This letter is in support of the Oregon Agricultural Heritage Program (HB 3249). I strongly support the goals of this program. We need policies that protect agricultural lands, family farms, and conservation of natural resources. This proposal is a collaborative effort between several statewide organizations who worked together to protect agricultural lands on which we all depend.

It is vitally important that there be a plan for Oregon farmers and ranchers to preserve their land for future generations. This program will bring resources to help individual farmers accomplish this. We need 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 to help bring federal grant funds, organization, and resources to these important efforts.

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

Thank you

Toni Hoyman

232 N 8<sup>th</sup> St

Philomath, OR 97370