

From: Bill Lakey
To: [JWMED Exhibits](#)
Subject: CORRECTION testimony in support of HB 2038
Date: Wednesday, June 21, 2017 3:58:39 PM

Education Subcommittee of Joint Committee on Ways and Means
900 Court St NE Salem, OR 97301

Dear Co-chairs Monroe and Sm: On behalf of organically Grown Company, a state-wide organization with over 250 stakeholders, we are writing to express our strong support for HB 2038, the Farm to School Bill, with the -11 amendments and to request that you do all you can to maintain funding for the Program.

HB 2038 would provide funding, in the form of grants administered by Oregon Department of Education, to reimburse school districts for their purchases of Oregon grown and processed foods and for food-based, agriculture-based or garden-based educational activities.

We understand that funding for the Program has been eliminated in the Ways and Means Target Reduction Lists released in April, which we feel is unacceptable.

We have been able to initiate relationships with schools entirely because of this program. Farm to school is one of those rare issues that connects our rural and urban citizens and enjoys bi-partisan support. Let's not be known as the state that canceled a program that is a win-win-win for kids, farmers, and communities.

Please do all you can to preserve funding for this important program!

Sincerely,
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Organically Grown Co.
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