

Watts Remy

From: John Burt <burtjgb@aol.com>
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To: SENR Exhibits
Subject: SB 241

January 31, 2019

Senate Environment and Natural Resources Committee
Sen. Dembrow, Chair

I am writing in favor of **SB 241** which will renew a critical tool that we have to encourage Oregon farmers and ranchers to donate commodities to Farmers Ending Hunger. These donations end up in a food box that will be distributed statewide by the Oregon Food Bank Network.

The Crop Donation Tax Credit provides an incentive for growers to take the extra step of handling a crop one more time, or putting in a smaller container and even sometimes providing the transportation to a food bank warehouse. The crops that are donated represent lost revenue to the growers. However, these extra handling steps are actual out of pocket cash expenses. The tax credit offers a way to off set a small portion of these costs.

The tax credit at 15% has been well received and utilized by many growers. Increasing the tax credit to 30% will provide us a great opportunity to catch more growers attention and make for a much more powerful tool at their disposal.

We endorse SB 241 and encourage the committee to move it forward.

Thank you,

John Burt

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