



**Testimony in Support of SB 536**  
**Submitted on behalf of Tillamook County Creamery Association**  
**Senate Environment & Natural Resources Committee**  
**February 14, 2019**

Chair Dembrow, and Members of the Committee, the Tillamook County Creamery Association (TCCA) supports moneys from the General Fund for Oregon State University's Food Innovation Center to support product development relating to milk. Two important factors to consider:

- OSU not only advances the development of dairy products and research, but also must make all funded research public.
- This investment helps attract new students to the field of dairy science and continue to build our future workforce.

We have committed funding the OSU Dairy Pilot Plant, which is meant to serve the broader Oregon dairy industry and establish Oregon as a food hub for both academics and business. TCCA recognizes the importance of leadership to secure strong financial participation among the processors, artisan creameries, and producers.

We have committed funding to BUILD (Building University-Industry linkages through Learning and Discovery), which is a network of professors, researchers, students and dairy food industry companies and organizations in the western region. The linkages will encourage the increased value of dairy products manufactured in the region by building a broader network of technically trained, knowledgeable professionals and leaders that will foster the growth of the dairy food industry through innovation and discovery.

About the Tillamook County Creamery Association:

Founded in 1909 as a farmer-owned cooperative, the Tillamook County Creamery Association (TCCA) prides itself on its commitment and mission to connect farmers and food lovers through better made dairy products. Guided by the belief that everyone deserves real food that makes them feel good every day, Tillamook has earned top awards for their cheese, ice cream, sour cream, butter and yogurt products made with unwavering values that never sacrifice or compromise quality for profit. The TCCA is currently made up of nearly 90 farming families, primarily based in Tillamook County. Tillamook operates production facilities in Tillamook and Boardman and employs nearly 900 people throughout the state.