



2/17/19

Dear Portland Area CSA Coalition,

I am the owner of Sun Love Farm in Oregon City, and I am writing to express our support for **SB 727 and HB 2837**. This legislation is important to Oregon's CSA farms because it supports the expansion of Double Up Food Bucks Oregon (DUFBO). This dollar-to-dollar SNAP matching program has proven to be successful across the state and has been very impactful for our own farm.

As a vendor at the Oregon City Farmer's Market where the DUFBO SNAP match has changed from \$10 to \$6 in the past year (due to lack of funds), I have noticed that SNAP customers come to the market less. A \$10 match is a huge motivation to come to the farmer's market and often those funds are used for fresh, local, healthy food. With the \$10 match, SNAP customers repeatedly told me what a huge help those matching dollars are in feeding their families and how grateful they are for the match. From the perspective of my business, the match is a huge help to me as well. I estimate that last year in two summer farmer's markets, I sold about \$3000 in produce to SNAP customers. As someone who sells about \$60,000 in produce a year, that is about 5% of everything I sell. I hope that this legislation, which would support low income families in eating healthy well grown food, and also in supporting local growers like myself (who can sometimes be SNAP users as well) in having viable businesses.

Please do provide this letter to the legislators considering this matter, and thank them on our behalf for the opportunity for us to provide written testimony. We urge their support of this bill.

Sincerely,
Melissa Streng
Sun Love Farm
Oregon City, OR