

February 16, 2019

Dear Portland Area CSA Coalition,


I am Jodi Monroy, an active community member in Beaverton, Oregon and I am writing to express my support for **SB 727 and HB 2837**. This legislation is important to Oregon's families and 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 my own family and community.

This program is important to me because it helps people, families, farms and communities to grow healthier and stronger. The direct correlation between low socio-economic status (being low-income, as my family is) and life outcomes is undeniable. One of the huge reasons for this is simply hunger. And hunger comes in the form of not enough to eat, but also inadequate nutritional value to the foods that are available to us. The DUFBO program helped me to feed my family good, nutritious foods. Foods that perhaps my kids would've never been exposed to, but have now become something that they know they have to eat and will eat, because it's good for us and we can afford it with the help of DUFBO. These important life lessons and opportunities for our next generation.

This program is also important to me because it empowers me and my kids to be a bigger, more positive contributor to our local economy and communities. Often times those of us who experience poverty are accustomed to receiving "benefits" and don't have many opportunities to give back in this way. Participating in DUFBO and with a local CSA gave us the chance to be a part of a supportive community that was otherwise inaccessible to us. These small, local farms are treasured parts of our community and I thank you for working to provide direct connect of these farms to my family

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.

Jodi Monroy



Beaverton, Oregon