



February 20, 2019

Dear Chair Gelser & Committee Members,

I am the Executive Director of AntFarm Youth Services, a non-profit that hosts the Mount Hood Farmers Market in Sandy, and I am writing to express our support for **SB 727 / HB 2837**. This legislation is important to Oregon's farmers markets 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 at our own market.

This program is important to our market, our customers and our vendors because it allows consumers in our community to bring home nutritious fruits and vegetables while supporting our local farmers and stimulating the local economy in our rural area. The Mt Hood Farmers Market encourages SNAP recipients to purchase fresh vegetables and fruits to provide nutritionally balanced meal to at-risk adults and youth. The DUFBO program increases the purchase power and expands the family food budget for SNAP families. Our market vendors bring a fresh variety of products and we provide information for youth and adults encouraging healthy food choices by introducing where food comes from and learning about healthy food options.

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,

*Nunpa*

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Visit our websites or FaceBook to learn more about AntFarm:

<http://antfarmyouthservices.com/>

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