

Education Subcommittee of the Joint Committee on Ways and Means

June 2, 2019

Co-Chairs Frederick and McLain and Members of Committee:

I am a teacher with Portland Public Schools. I am writing on behalf of myself and the precious children that attend our schools.

I'm urging you to support HB 2579 and the most recent Amendments, to expand funding for Oregon's farm to school and school garden programs. HB 2579 expands funding for schools to buy Oregon foods and for farm- and garden-based education.

Farm to school programs support students, farmers and communities. I have seen these programs make a difference.... At our school, we are starting to grow vegetables and edible plants that are served in the cafeteria. These are organically grown to benefit the health of our students. In addition to growing healthy foods, students are learning all about sustainability and applying math skills and science skills.

Please do all you can to advance and fully fund HB 2579.

Thank you for the consideration and for your service.

Sincerely,
Clare McClincy