

David S. Wall
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February 4, 2021

To: House Committee on Agriculture and Natural Resources; others

Re: I Support [HB 2785] ...

[HB 2785] a Grant program to facilitate the upgrades of facilities to participate in the meat inspection program is unfortunately way overdue and is not funded adequately to address the growing needs of meat producers.

\$10,000,000 dollars is not much money these days to do much of anything substantial but, it is better than nothing at all.

I don't think a Grant program is the way to address the needs of the meat producers.

From my perspective, "Grant programs" are administratively cumbersome and inefficient.

Oregon needs to create a modern day financial institution, a "Farm Banking System" for lack of a better definition, to provide meat producers in this case, exceptionally low interest loans to upgrade their facilities to meet the necessary meat inspection standards we all expect to protect us from harm.

The capitalization of a "Farm Banking System" might qualify for Federal matching funds.

Thank-you for your support of the meat producers!

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ David S. Wall

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