

Tri-Chairs Johnson, Steiner-Hayward and Rayfield and members of the Joint Committee on Ways and Means.

My name is Mike Kelly and I am testifying on behalf of Astoria School District Food Services, to ask you to restore funding for the Oregon Farm to School Grant Program.

Farm to School Grants provide funding for schools to purchase healthy, local foods and provide farm and garden-based education. These grants are leveraging and keeping millions of federal dollars in Oregon, supporting local farmers, and connecting kids to Oregon agriculture.

This program has directly benefited our school district, and its students by providing funding for locally grown and processed food and produce that I would otherwise not be able to serve and it benefits not only the students but Oregon growers, distributors, and other companies that produce Oregon products.

Please do all you can to restore funding for the Oregon Farm to School Grant Program to the levels of the last biennium, which was \$15 million. Thanks for the opportunity to testify.