

Chair Gelser and Members of the Committee,

My name is Gia Matzinger. I am a farmer and food access advocate in Sisters, OR. I am writing to request your support for **SB 440 & 555**.

SB 555 and SB 440 support the expansion of Double Up Food Bucks Oregon, a SNAP incentive program with a proven record of success. For every dollar spent on SNAP-eligible foods at participating farmers markets, farm share programs, and grocery stores across the state, shoppers will receive a dollar to spend on Oregon-grown fruits and vegetables.

This program is important to me because I believe that, in our extremely unequal food system that determines who has access to fresh, healthy foods, this is at least one thing that can be done for those individuals in our communities that are suffering health issues from poor diets (that result in outrageous expenses to our health care systems). It is preventative care, and the humane thing to do, short of restructuring our current agricultural systems and food systems.

Thank you for the consideration and for your service.

Sincerely,
Gia Matzinger
Sisters, OR