

Submitter: Kyra Ramsay

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Natural Resources

Measure: SB507

Chair Golden, Vice-Chair Girod, and members of the committee:

My name is Kyra Ramsay and I am the market manager of the Aloha Community Farmers' Market, a 501(c)(3) Non-Profit, representing the interests of farmers, food producers and customers in our community. I'm writing today in support of SB 507, which will provide much needed improvements and upgrades to Oregon's Farm Direct Marketing Law first enacted in 2011.

With the forthcoming amendment, SB507 will:

- Include entities that assist small producers by aggregating, delivering, and assisting with the sale of Farm Direct Marketing Law 'FDML' eligible products, into the FDML regulatory framework.

- Add steam canning and freeze drying to eligible processes that can be used for the production of preserves, jams, and canned fruit and vegetables.

- Improve consumer access to FDML products by allowing additional sales opportunities through consignment.

- Include certain herbal tea blends, juices, and maple syrup as eligible products under OR's FDML.

I am really excited to see the changes proposed in SB 507. With these changes my farmers and food producing vendors will have an opportunity to increase revenue through additional safe, value-added products like freeze drying and tea blends to expand their farm tables during market season. Giving them an opportunity to have product at the market when our changing climate alters what can be tabled that season. SB 507 will help both Oregon's small producers and the customers they serve.

The improvements in the legislation before you will help improve upon our vibrant local food system, expand upon farmers' sales and income opportunities, and give a clear foundation about what foods can and cannot be sold farm-direct.

I urge your support for SB 507.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Kyra Ramsay
Market Manger - Aloha Community Farmers' Market