

Submitter: Eden Olsen

On Behalf
Of:

Committee: House Committee On Agriculture, Land Use, Natural Resources, and
Water

Measure: HB2998

Chair Helm and members of the Committee,

For the record my name is Eden Olsen and I own Lucky Crow Farm in Monmouth,
Oregon.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of HB 2998, which establishes the
Oregon Soil Health Initiative to leverage existing programs and expand resources to
support farmers and ranchers with soil health practices that make the most sense for
their land and businesses.

Agriculture drives Polk County's culture, economy, and land conditions.

The bill would give Soil and Water Conservation Districts like ours the capacity to
promote soil health principles and practices to Oregon's agricultural communities by:

- (A) providing training and education for agricultural producers to promote soil health
across this state's diverse regions and production types;
- (B) collaborating with local partners and landowners to promote soil health
demonstration projects to showcase practices and build statewide awareness and
understanding; and
- (C) highlighting existing soil health improvement efforts by Oregon farmers and
ranchers.

The Healthy Soils Bill would give us the capacity to do this work to support farmers
and ranchers in our county.

Thank you for your support of HB 2998.