

Submitter: Dolores Miller

On Behalf  
Of:

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

Measure: HB2998

House Committee on Agriculture, Land Use, Natural Resources, and Water

Oregon State Capitol

900 Court Street NE

Salem, Oregon 97301

February 15, 2023

Chair Helm, Vice-Chairs Hartman and Owens and members of the Committee on  
Agriculture, Land Use, Natural Resources, and Water:

I am writing on behalf of Miller Ranch in strong support of HB 2998, the Healthy Soils  
Bill which would 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.

We raise sheep on a 300 acre ranch in Bandon Oregon which has been in our family  
since 1886.

I am proud to be one of over 50 farmers and ranchers across Oregon urging your  
support for the Healthy Soils Bill.

At our ranch we have implemented sustainable agricultural practices related to soil  
health and water conservation in order to have more resilience to drought and  
extreme weather events. We need more resources and program capacity in order to  
continue to support soil health practices.

The Soil Health Initiative will provide farmer to farmer education, equipment and  
financial incentives to farmers and ranchers who want to improve their soil health and

are seeking support.

Managing for soil health allows producers to work with the land to reduce erosion, maximize water infiltration, improve nutrient cycling, save money on inputs, improve plant health, and ultimately improve the resiliency of their working land. Better soil helps raise better crops. What's good for the land is good for producers.

And improving soil health provides environmental benefits that serve the whole community, including improved water quality, increased biodiversity and pollinator habitat, and sequestered carbon.

The Healthy Soils Bill will support, coordinate, and celebrate the work that many farmers and ranchers are doing to advance soil health. It will also position Oregon to receive federal funding to take this work even further.

Please support and do all you can to advance HB 2998.

Thank you for your consideration and your service.

Dolores Miller

Miller Ranch

Bandon, OR