

Co-Chair Steiner, Co-Chair Sanchez, and Members of the Committee,

My Name is Chris Van Dyke. I am the manager of the Umpqua Valley Farmers Market in Roseburg. I am writing to request your support for **HB2728**.

HB 2728 supports 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.

Every week I am thanked numerous times by customers who are so appreciative that this program is available to them. Especially coming out of COVID and into the inflationary period. This program has provided stability and predictability for our SNAP recipient customers.

Last year our market averaged 50 DUFB transactions each week and peaked at 90 during the height of the produce season. Over the course of the year, this amounted to a \$43,000 investment in fruits and vegetables delivered directly to some of our communities most vulnerable citizens. This also represents a \$43,000 direct investment into our community's family farms. As someone who is responsible for overseeing the management of this program at our market, I know first hand the work that goes in to make it happen. I would like you to know that we welcome that work because we see every Saturday the good that it is doing for our community.

I ask you to support HB 2728, and to fully fund the bill before the Oregon Legislature adjourns. Thank you for the consideration and for your service.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Chris Van Dyke". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long, sweeping underline that extends to the right.

Chris Van Dyke
UVFM market manager
Roseburg OR