



CITY OF BEND

April 27, 2023

House Committee on Economic Development and Small Business
Oregon State Legislature
Oregon State Capitol
900 Court St. NE
Salem, Oregon 97301

RE: Letter of Support—SB643

Dear House Committee on Economic Development and Small Business,

The City of Bend is supportive of SB643 and your work aid cottage food producers. In Bend, commercial kitchen space remains at a premium and the high cost of housing has left many residents seeking to start or grow a business from the home. We have local requirements in place to ensure home-based businesses operate in a manner that aligns with neighborhood expectations.

We understand the concerns raised around public health and believe these can be addressed in coordination with local regulatory agencies. Allowing cottage food producers to expand their market while adhering to clear labeling, inspection requirements, and limiting allowable products to those generally considered shelf-stable are measures that have proved successful in other states.

Further, formalizing and modernizing these requirements will help at-home food producers, who may have been operating out of the view of regulatory agencies, bring their operation into compliance, allowing for regular inspections of kitchens and at-home food processing facilities.

Again, we appreciate your efforts to help foster economic growth that will benefit all residents of Bend and the State of Oregon.

Sincerely,

Melanie Kebler
Mayor
City of Bend
mkebler@bendoregon.gov

LOCATION

710 NW Wall Street
Downtown Bend

MAILING ADDRESS

PO Box 431
Bend, OR 97709

PHONE

(541) 388-5505
Relay Users Dial 7-1-1

FAX

(541) 385-6676

WEB

bendoregon.gov

MAYOR

Melanie Kebler

MAYOR PRO TEM

Megan Perkins

CITY COUNCILORS

Anthony Broadman
Barb Campbell
Ariel Méndez
Megan Norris
Mike Riley

CITY MANAGER

Eric King

Accommodation Information for People with Disabilities

To obtain this information in an alternate format such as Braille, large print, electronic formats, etc. please contact Ben Hemson, Business Advocate at bhemson@bendoregon.gov or 541-388-5529; Relay Users Dial 7-1-1, and 541-388-6676.

