



**TO: Ways & Means Subcommittee on Education
Senator Lew Frederick, Co-Chair
Representative Susan McLain, Co-Chair**

DT: April 26, 2023

RE: HB 5025 - Support of OSU Statewides- Extension, Agricultural Experiment Station and Forest Research Lab

Co-Chairs & Members of the Committee:

As a member of Oregon's food and beverage sector, I am writing to express my strong support for the OSU Statewides' budget in HB 5025.

OSU Statewides contribute greatly to Oregon's food and beverage sector through applied research and distribution of knowledge through OSU's statewide Extension network. It is important that the OSU Statewides receive continued service level funding and receive focus on sustainable food systems.

For Clif Bar & Company (and our parent company Mondelez International), OSU Extension has helped create a thriving cradle-to-consumer food culture on the West Coast. In keeping with our commitment to agricultural resilience and climate impact reduction, we rely on credible academic institutions to develop innovative methods of production.

An increased investment will allow OSU to recruit experts in sustainable food technologies who will educate students, conduct impactful research and provide education and technology transfer to Oregon's food and beverage industry. The overall focus is to identify and implement financially viable strategies to transform food and beverages manufacturing using less land, water, energy, and raw materials while creating less waste, less greenhouse gasses and reducing dependency on plastics. New faculty members will fill current holes in existing skill set and will provide capacity to start up new or strengthen existing programs.

Sincerely,

Sarah Beaubien

Sarah Beaubien
Senior Director, Impact & Sustainability

