Submitter: Becca Williams

On Behalf Of: Red Plate Foods

Committee: Joint Committee On Ways and Means Subcommittee On Transportation and Economic Development

Measure: SB5524

Dear Committee Members:

Business Oregon has provided critical support to my company, Red Plate Foods, during this high-growth phase where capital infusion and connections to consulting resources have helped us manage much larger production volumes. Red Plate is a manufacturer of food that is free from the top 9 allergens, gluten free, vegan, Kosher and non-GMO, made in a dedicated facility in Bend, Oregon. Our woman-founded and woman-owned business employs 20 people and supplies granola and desserts to grocery stores, K-12 schools, universities, restaurants, healthcare facilities, event venues and airlines across the U.S.

Through a Strategic Reserve Fund grant awarded by Business Oregon, Red Plate purchased equipment making it possible to dramatically increase production, improve efficiencies and serve many more customers across the nation with foods that are clean label and inclusive of special diets. In addition to funding, Business Oregon connected us with consultants from OMEP (Oregon Manufacturing Extension Partnership) which has proven valuable in optimizing manufacturing processes and allowed us to invest in employee development.

We are grateful for the programs and expertise of the individuals at Business Oregon and wholeheartedly support continued funding, thus strengthening our state's small business community. Red Plate Foods' successful growth is proof that dollars invested in Business Oregon provide a high rate of return in increased revenue and job growth for the State of Oregon.

Sincerely,
Becca Williams
President & Co-Founder, Red Plate Foods