

Submitter: Nicole Brun-Cottan
On Behalf Of: Friends of Family Farmers
Committee: House Committee On Agriculture, Land Use, Natural Resources, and Water
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB2164

I am a community member living in Portland Oregon, and an ally to farmers and small scale meat producers across the state. I care about HB 2164 because I believe that everyone should have access to sustainably raised and foraged meat. In order to achieve that - we need enough inspectors to certify the processing sites. This is an issue that crosses the urban/rural line and affects working people. The state currently has too few USDA inspected facilities to meet demand and small farms are often given 12 month wait times for appointments to get their animals processed. This kind of bureaucratic delay costs farmers, and undermines faith in government. The state has already devoted so many resources and staff hours to the establishment of the State Meat Inspection Program and qualifying facilities. Do not let the program fail to meet its promises because of a lack of inspector capacity. Please support HB 2164 and fulfill the promises our state has made to its local livestock producers.