

富康超級市場

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March 21, 2025

Oregon State Legislature C/O: Joint Committee on Ways & Means 900 Court St. NE Salem, OR 97301

## Re: Support for SB 5526

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

My name is Michael Liu. I am a grocery partner in Portland. I am writing to request your support for the Double Up Food Bucks program within the Department of Human Services agency budget (SB 5526).

The Self Sufficiency portion of SB5526 supports continuation of Double Up Food Bucks Oregon, a SNAP incentive program with a proven record of success. For every dollar spent on SNAPeligible foods at participating farmers markets, farm stands, grocery stores, and CSAs across the state, shoppers will receive an additional dollar to spend on Oregon-grown fruits and vegetables.

With the cost of food continuing to rise and threats to cut SNAP and other forms of food assistance at the federal level, Double Up is a local, community driven program that makes a big difference in the lives of our shoppers, farmers, and small businesses.

Fubonn Supermarket has participated in the Oregon Food Bank Double Up Program for over two years. Our organization was extremely grateful to be selected as one of the locations and this additional service has been well received. Fubonn Supermarket serves many BIPOC families in the Southeast Portland area. Our inclusion in the program provides our diverse customer base the ability to purchase fruits and vegetables that are more specific to the traditional dishes made in the home. It benefits for those in the program by giving them the ability purchase nutritious food for their families. With the increase in cost of goods, this program is vital in maintaining good health and hopefully cut down on illnesses.

Oregon Food Bank's Double Up is a well-designed program that provides a lot of positive outcomes and convenience for all participants. Encouraging grocery partners to purchase from farmers in Oregon will help keep the economic prosperity in the community. The Oregon Food Bank will be able to reach more people without the need to set up additional infrastructure. The grocery stores can continue supporting its customers with better incentives funded by the

program. This program is a great use of government funds that will help families with food insecurities. But, this program is all about the end user and the SNAP recipients will be the biggest beneficiary. Instead of traveling to a food pantry or other organizations for food assistance, the SNAP recipients will be able to shop close to home and select the produce items they are used to consuming. This is a needed program and I hope the committee will see the impact these dollars have had in the community.

I ask you to fully fund the Double Up Food Bucks program within the Department of Human Services agency budget (**SB 5526)** before the Oregon Legislature adjourns.

Thank you for your consideration and your service.

Sincerely,

Michael Liu

Michael Liu Managing Member Fubonn Supermarket (Portland, OR)