



Senator Elizabeth Steiner Hayward
 Representative Tawna Sanchez
 Co-Chairs, Joint Ways & Means Committee

RE: OSU Statewide Public Service Programs

Dear Senator Steiner Hayward and Representative Sanchez,

As we approach the 2022 legislative session, our coalition of diverse stakeholders would like to share our concerns about the current funding gap for the Oregon State University Statewide Public Service Programs – the Agricultural Experiment Station, Extension Service, and Forest Research Laboratory. Known as “The OSU Statewides,” these programs serve all Oregonians by providing state-of-the-art research and community-based outreach to address real-world problems.

During the 2021 legislative session, the OSU Statewides failed to receive the university requested continuing service level funding. This created a collective \$2.2 million shortfall for the three programs. This equates to a

loss of essential scientists and Extension educators and a reduction of critical research and Extension needs throughout the state.

Since March 2020, the OSU Statewides have responded to the realities of COVID-19, wildfire and drought by adapting and innovating to deliver programing in new ways and adjusting priorities to address communities' current needs. Without full base funding, the OSU Statewides' ability to provide this level of service, research and education will decrease.

In 2022, we are asking you to support \$2.2 million in operational funding for the OSU Statewides – \$1.17 million for Agricultural Experiment Station, \$863,000 for the OSU Extension Service and \$176,000 for the Forest Research Laboratory. Combined with last session's allocation, this investment represents a 7.42% base funding level increase to the 2019-21 budget. This investment keeps OSU at the forefront of bringing the latest science and technology to bear on the issues facing Oregonians and ensuring sustainable food, forest products, environment and communities for the future.

Thank you for your service to the State of Oregon. We recognize you have big decisions ahead. Please continue to recognize OSU's land grant mission to serve all corners of the state by continuing to invest in programs like the OSU Statewides that have significant impact for all Oregonians.

Thank you for your consideration,

1000 Friends of Oregon
Adelante Mujeres
Associated Oregon Hazelnut Industries
Association of Oregon Counties
Association of Oregon Loggers
Black Food Sovereignty Coalition
Black Futures Farm
Columbia Gorge Fruit Growers
Farmers Market Fund
Far West Agribusiness Association
Food Roots
Friends of Family Farmer
Gorge Grown Food Network
Growing Gardens
High Desert Food & Farm Alliance
Northeast Oregon Economic Development District
Oregon Association of Conservation Districts
Oregon Association of Nurseries
Oregon Beef Council
Oregon Blueberry Growers
Oregon Cattlemen's Association
Oregon Dairy Farmer's Association
Oregon Environmental Council
Oregon Essential Oil Grower League
Oregon Farm Bureau
Oregon Farm to School & School Garden Network
Oregon Organic Coalition
Oregon Seed Association
Oregon Seed League

Oregon Small Woodlands Association
Oregon Tilth
Oregon Water Resources Congress
Oregon Wheat Growers
Oregon Wine Council
Oregon Winegrower's Association
Oregon Women for Agriculture
Rogue Farm Corps
Sustainable Northwest
Ten Rivers Food Web
Willamette Valley Specialty Seed Assn.