

# House Bill 3601

Sponsored by COMMITTEE ON ELECTIONS, ETHICS AND RULES (at the request of House Interim Committee on Education)

## SUMMARY

The following summary is not prepared by the sponsors of the measure and is not a part of the body thereof subject to consideration by the Legislative Assembly. It is an editor's brief statement of the essential features of the measure **as introduced**.

Requires Department of Education to establish Oregon Farm-to-School and School Garden Program.

Appropriates moneys from General Fund to department for program implementation.

Declares emergency, effective on passage.

## A BILL FOR AN ACT

1  
2 Relating to Oregon Farm-to-School and School Garden Program; appropriating money; and declaring  
3 an emergency.

4 Whereas farm-to-school programs have been shown to result in increased market opportunities  
5 for farmers, fishers, ranchers, food processors and food manufacturers and to support economic de-  
6 velopment; and

7 Whereas farm-to-school and school garden programs improve children's and the community's  
8 knowledge about, and attitudes toward, agriculture, food, nutrition and the environment; and

9 Whereas farm-to-school and school garden programs have been shown to increase children's  
10 participation in school meal programs and consumption of fruits and vegetables, thereby improving  
11 childhood nutrition and preventing obesity and obesity-related diseases; and

12 Whereas these programs, by decreasing the distance between producers and consumers, promote  
13 community food security while reducing emission of greenhouse gases and reliance on oil; and

14 Whereas the Legislative Assembly finds that it is in the best interests of Oregon's children,  
15 farmers, fishers, ranchers, food processors, food manufacturers and communities to empower schools  
16 to increase their use of Oregon agricultural products in their school food service programs; now,  
17 therefore,

18 **Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:**

19 **SECTION 1. (1) The Department of Education shall establish the Oregon Farm-to-School**  
20 **and School Garden Program. Through the program, the department shall:**

21 (a) **Assist school districts that participate in the United States Department of Agricul-**  
22 **ture's National School Lunch Program or School Breakfast Program in utilizing Oregon food**  
23 **products and produce from school gardens;**

24 (b) **Promote food- and garden-based educational activities in school districts that partic-**  
25 **ipate in the United States Department of Agriculture's National School Lunch Program or**  
26 **School Breakfast Program;**

27 (c) **Provide information to school districts on how farm-to-school and school garden**  
28 **projects may help implement wellness policies mandated by the United States Department**  
29 **of Agriculture;**

30 (d) **Assist school districts in incorporating farm-to-school and school garden projects into**

**NOTE:** Matter in **boldfaced** type in an amended section is new; matter *[italic and bracketed]* is existing law to be omitted. New sections are in **boldfaced** type.

1 wellness policies mandated by the United States Department of Agriculture;

2 (e) Work with the State Department of Agriculture to develop farm-to-school related  
3 programs; and

4 (f) Perform other activities necessary to facilitate the success of the Oregon Farm-to-  
5 School and School Garden Program.

6 (2) The State Board of Education may adopt any rules necessary for the administration  
7 of this section.

8 (3)(a) For the purpose of paying the costs of the Department of Education of adminis-  
9 tering the Oregon Farm-to-School and School Garden Program, the department may accept  
10 contributions of moneys and assistance from any source, public or private, and agree to  
11 conditions placed on the moneys not inconsistent with the duties of the department under  
12 this section.

13 (b) Any moneys received by the department under this subsection shall be placed in the  
14 Department of Education Account.

15 SECTION 2. On or before February 1, 2009, the Department of Education shall report, in  
16 the manner provided in ORS 192.245, to the Seventy-fifth Legislative Assembly on the activ-  
17 ities related to the Oregon Farm-to-School and School Garden Program established under  
18 section 1 of this 2008 Act.

19 SECTION 3. Section 1 of this 2008 Act becomes operative on July 1, 2008.

20 SECTION 4. There is appropriated to the Department of Education, for the biennium  
21 beginning July 1, 2007, out of the General Fund, the amount of \$95,000 for the purposes of  
22 the Oregon Farm-to-School and School Garden Program established under section 1 of this  
23 2008 Act.

24 SECTION 5. This 2008 Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public  
25 peace, health and safety, an emergency is declared to exist, and this 2008 Act takes effect  
26 on its passage.