Dear Senator Devlin and Representative Buckley,

As the Extension Citizen Advisory Network (ECAN), we request that you support the full 2013-15 budget shortfall to the OSU “Statewide Programs” budget of $7M (SB 5535). The Statewide Programs includes Oregon State University Extension Service, Agriculture Experimental Station, and Forest Research Laboratory.

ECAN is a network of forty-one passionate Extension volunteers, each representing Oregon’s 36 counties. We educate our local, state, and federal elected officials about the value of Extension’s programs in our communities. OSU Extension is truly unique; no other university (public or private) has such a network touching the people where they live.

We work side by side with OSU Extension faculty to build our communities’ capacity to become more self-sufficient through the five OSU Extension programs: 4-H Youth Development, Agriculture and Natural Resource, Family and Community Health, Forestry and Natural Resources and Sea Grant. These programs grow the economy, improve the productivity of our land, protect the environment, develop tomorrow’s leaders and corps of volunteers, and keep Oregonians strong and healthy. Here are a few statistics that support our claim.

- 18,000 active volunteers in Oregon were trained by OSU Extension Service
- 1 in 5 students in K-12 participate each year in 4-H youth development
- More than 2,000,000 Oregonians receive information and educational programs from OSU Extension volunteers each year.

Outreach and engagement is how Extension works, every day, across Oregon. That is why it is crucial that SB 5535 fully funds OSU Statewide Programs. Thank you in advance for your support.

Sincerely,
OSU Extension Citizen Advisory Network
Suzanne Briggs, ECAN Co-Chair
Carolyn Oakley, ECAN Co-Chair