

**From:** Representative Greg Barreto rep.gregbarreto@oregonlegislature.gov   
**Subject:** \$1.43 Million for Future Farmers of America  
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**REPRESENTATIVE GREG BARRETO  
OREGON HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
HOUSE DISTRICT 58**

**For Immediate Release**  
**Thursday, July 24**  
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**\$1.43 Million for Future Farmers of America**  
*HB 2444 will reestablish support to increase participation and access to leadership development and career preparation*

**SALEM, Oregon** – The Governor has signed an appropriations bill that will provide \$1.43 million for the Oregon Future Farmers of America. Rep. Greg Barreto (R-Cove) is the chief sponsor of HB 2444 that funds FFA activities throughout the year.

The bill provides funding for enrollment, leadership development and training, coordinating two dozen state-level competitive events, and other general FFA programs. Another \$600,000 will be appropriated for grants to school districts for extended duty contracts for program teachers during the summer.

“FFA is more than a nine-month curriculum. It extends throughout the summer months when students are engaged in events such as leadership training tours, regional leadership conferences, Statewide training programs, officer recruitment, training and coaching, local, county and state fair competitions, along with state and national conventions and competitions,” said Rep. Barreto.

The Oregon FFA Association was established in 1929 as an integral part of the agricultural education. The National FFA organization is committed to the individual students, providing a path to achievement in premier leadership, personal growth and career success through agriculture education.

“The FFA provides a student leadership component tied to agriculture that includes leadership development, class presentations, development conferences and events, and connects real-world applications to classroom learning,” Rep. Barreto said. “I marvel at the level of quality of kids we have in this program, it is one of the most stellar we have in the state.”

Rep. Barreto continued, “The level of commitment from the FFA instructors has a definite influence on the outcome of the quality of the FFA program and those students involved. Instructors should be compensated for their inordinate amount of time commitment and this program should be supported as part of our education system.”

“I would like to thank Senator Arnie Roblan the Chair of the Committee on Student Success and Representative Margaret Doherty the Chair of the Committee on Education, for their great support for HB 2444,” states Rep. Barreto.

Governor Brown signed HB 2444 on July 23, 2019.

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