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Bristol

Public Hearing on the Governor's Recommended Fiscal Year 2027 Budget  
Re: Support \$500,000 in base funding for NOFA Vermont's Crop Cash (Plus) and Farm Share programs

My name is Skylar Maguire of Bristol, VT. In 2025, I was a recipient of Crop Cash, Crop Cash Plus, and a NOFA Farm Share. Thank you for taking the time to read and listen to Vermonters like me.

I ask for your continued support by appropriating \$500,000 in FY2027 to support these critical food security programs. They are critical because access to affordable, healthy, local food is life changing. I know this because my health improved, as did my relationship to food and my body. I also gained a sense of community through being able to shop at farmers markets. I even took up gardening as a result of these experiences. By appropriating \$500,000 in State funding, it's not only a win-win for low-income Vermonters and farmers, but a necessity given the unreliability of SNAP benefits under the Trump administration.

Once again, please support \$500,000 in FY2027 to support local food security programs - Crop Cash, Crop Cash Plus, and Farm Share. Thank you for considering this request.