

[Eva Garrett]

Owner

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Dear Members of the Jobs and Economic Development Committee,

As the Owner of Natural Me Apothecary, a strong advocate for healthy eating and lifestyles, I am writing to express my enthusiastic support for the Culinary Workforce Development Bill (S.F. 5181), specifically aimed at securing vital funding for the Healthy Roots Institute (HRI). This initiative holds immense importance for fostering the growth and sustainability of HRI's impactful endeavors in our community, notably the esteemed VoCul program.

Having witnessed firsthand the transformative impact of programs like VoCul, which empower individuals to cook healthily and from scratch, I am deeply convinced of the significant benefits it brings to both individuals and communities alike.

The enactment of this bill stands to not only equip individuals with essential culinary skills but also to cultivate economic resilience and social cohesion within our community—a win-win scenario for all involved.

Our close association with HRI and the VoCul program underscores the personal and organizational commitment we have towards promoting healthier lifestyles and supporting initiatives that foster community well-being.

I implore you to lend your support to this crucial initiative, as I am confident in its potential to create a positive and lasting impact on the lives of many, while also elevating the culinary landscape of our state.

Thank you for considering this matter. Together, we can contribute towards building a future characterized by prosperity, inclusivity, and culinary excellence.

Sincerely,

Eva Garrett

Owner, Natural Me Apothecary