## Food For All



## A Lower Willamette FFA Community Service

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Perrydale, Willamina, Dayton Yamhill-Carlton, Sheridan, FFA Chapters

Senate Finance Committee:

Food For All is an organization that unites farmers and FFA (Future Farmers of America) in fighting hunger in Oregon. In the past five years we have donated over 1,000,000 pounds of food to needy families throughout the state of Oregon. Oregon continues to statistically rank near the top of the list when it comes to hungry families and children.

Food For All counts on partnerships with farmers and produce companies to supply Oregon residents with fresh, nutritious fruits and vegetables. Food For All serves needy families throughout the state. When Klamath County was experiencing drought, a truck load (40,000 lbs.) was sent to the region. Mahleur County was one of the poorest in the state, and Food For All sent 45,000 lbs. of food and clothing to assist them. When Vernonia had a flood, Food For All was there. 1600 families on the Oregon coast from Lincoln City to Bandon received 40 lbs. of produce because of our partnership with farmers in 2012.

Our program has been threatened by a lack of legislation that provides farmers with the economic means to donate. One company this year reduced it donation from 2500 lbs. to only 350 lbs. Another company reduced it potato donation from 45,000 lbs. to 10,000 lbs. Still others have threatened to pull support if changes are not made. This legislation if not passed will have an impact and those that need it most, hungry kids and families.

We have many groups that want to help fight hunger in Oregon. Let's do what we can to make this happen.

Sincerely

Kirk R. Hutchinson