

To: Chair Oregon Senator Sara Gelser and Members of the Committee

Re: written testimony for SBS 727, shs.exhibits@oregonlegislature.gov

Dear Senator Gelser,

As you are the elected representative to act in the interest of the wellbeing of myself and fellow constituents, I am asking you to support and help succeed, the double up SNAP bill that is currently in consideration, SBS 727.

I am a Portland resident of 63 years, that copes with many health declines, and the double up allows my small food stamp allotment to be furthered. I buy organically grown carrots, apples, pears, squashes, root veggies, nuts, and other recommended foods to remedy my ills.

Beyond just my circumstance, I ask too for the residents of the 70 apartment HUD building in which I reside. Included are many elderly [in their 80s and 90s], infirm, and frail minded, that find it difficult to express their hope for your action, and their great need. The snap double up allows at least some choices for the declines each faces. Many are given without food choice, subsistence boxes from food pantries that are health harming. No person has a doctor that thinks processed cheese logs, meat offal in processed meat loafs, powdered milk, filtered sugary apple juices, dog salmon, and high glucose oats, are recommended in any manner. The majority cope and fight conditions like diabetes, coronary disease, high blood pressure, kidney failure, and cognitive impairment from multiple medication side effects. The food relief boxes actually aggravate these. The double up becomes vital, for many. Their trust is placed in your action.

Sadly, the food boxes that are subsidized at government expense, are largely piled up in the parking lot before apt inspections, or discarded. If a calculation of the actual box cost, from subsidy to pesticide using conventional farmer, transport, agency of handling, distribution, and documentation, I would not be surprised if each box were \$500 cost to the government. And then too, the health harms... So the double up becomes more relevant and pronounced.

Other reasons for support, is that all of us need to act in the idea of the green deal in small or large measure, to continue Oregons environmental priorities, to increase our people and future, and aid farmers healthy food methods and delivery of healthy produce to the marketplace. These affirmative measures help that.

I urge you also to support and expand any related programs, for the vulnerable, infirm, and often unheard, multitudes in Oregon. Please keep in mind, communities in every land on earth, has safety nets for these populations, and they touch every family. Please act in a good way.

Thank you. I say, the needs of Oregonians in health risk, are often missed as their reduced circumstance make many difficulties to cope with just the daily immediacies, left aside are abilities to reach far. To borrow from a famous phrase, the shadow of a starving man is too easy to overlook, and needs your action.

With Regards,

William Bretz Coffee, Portland Oregon 97214