

HB 2760 and HB 2765

February 27, 2019

Chair Doherty, Vice Chairs Alonzo-Leon and Helt and members of the committee

A good educational foundation is the way we can break cycles of generational poverty. Yet too many of our students face food insecurity. Statistics show that well nourished students do better both in the classroom and later in life.

So, providing universal access to school lunch and the option for "Breakfast after the Bell" would serve Oregon well in providing for our students.

We understand the numbers of students qualifying for free and reduced lunch vary from school district to school district.

In our capitol city the Salem Keizer school district is the 2nd largest in the state. Sixty percent of the 42,000 plus student qualify for free or reduced lunch. There are eight high schools in the district, six traditional and two smaller schools. Of those eight schools, six are above 50% free and reduced lunch and one high school is at 83% followed closely by one with 78 %.

Portland Public Schools reports 57 %, David Douglas 74% and Central School District in Monmouth reports 59%.

The need is great. Let's give our students a good start by feeding them.

Please support HB 2760 and HB 2765.

Marcia Kelley

OWRC

Public Policy Advocate