

**HB 2834 A STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY**

**Carrier:** Rep. Schouten

**House Committee On Human Services**

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**Action Date:** 03/29/21

**Action:** Do pass with amendments. (Printed A-Eng.)

**Vote:** 6-1-0-0

**Yeas:** 6 - Leif, Noble, Ruiz, Sanchez, Schouten, Williams

**Nays:** 1 - Owens

**Fiscal:** Fiscal impact issued

**Revenue:** No revenue impact

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**Meeting Dates:** 3/3, 3/29

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**WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:**

Expands Hunger Task Force to add a member of the Legislative Assembly who serves on a human services committee, nine members who represent organizations that serve or advocate for people affected by hunger, and nine members who represent people with lived experiences of hunger and communities most impacted by hunger. Specifies member term lengths and reappointment.

**ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

- School system dependence on food security programs
- Definitions of categories and specificities for eligibility
- Changing task force membership and inclusiveness of stakeholders

**EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:**

Alters membership of the Hunger Task Force appointed by the Department of Human Services.

**BACKGROUND:**

The Oregon Food Bank reports that the rate of food insecurity (being without access to a sufficient quantity of affordable, nutritious food) in Oregon is 14.6 percent. About 552,900 Oregonians are food insecure; of those, 194,070 are children. Oregon State University's Policy Analysis Laboratory reports that communities of color and single mothers experience hunger at rates two to three times higher than the general population.

The Hunger Task Force (Task Force) was created by the legislature in 1989 and is made up of legislators, state agency representatives, and nonprofit and community leaders. The Task Force researches, documents, and raises awareness about the extent of hunger in Oregon; coordinates the provision of food and nutrition services across the state; and makes recommendations for government action for the alleviation of hunger.

House Bill 2834 A increases membership on the Hunger Task Force to include people with lived experiences of hunger and communities most impacted by food insecurity, so that the Task Force is one-third representative of communities most impacted by food insecurity, one-third representative of key stakeholder groups, and one-third legislators and state agencies.