

Paul L Evans
STATE REPRESENTATIVE
DISTRICT 20



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

March 3, 2021

House Committee on Human Services
Oregon House of Representatives
Oregon State Capitol

Ref: HB 2292 Relating to program providing financial assistance to recipients who receive supplemental nutrition assistance

Dear Colleagues:

Even more during these times of economic challenge, Oregon families rely on the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) to put food on their tables. According to the Oregon Hunger Task Force, 1 in 4 Oregon families currently experiences food insecurity. Pre-COVID, that figure was 1 in 10. This has meant that families are struggling to stretch their dollars to make ends meet more than ever. These are the foundational reasons I am submitting my support for HB 2292.

In addition to assisting families receiving benefits, this program will benefit rural communities across the state, local farmers, and farm-to-table programs by coordinating with them to serve families most in need and supplementing these families' purchasing power.

In short, HB 2292 would provide funds and a program whereby SNAP recipients would be assisted in purchasing locally grown fruits and vegetables from Oregon's 120 farmer's markets statewide and retail outlets participating in the program and match amounts spent by recipients further stretching their nutrition dollars.

I believe this to be a worthy investment in Oregon families and farms during these difficult times, as it will not only benefit them financially but will improve health and nutrition by providing access to affordable, healthy, nutritious foods.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Paul L. Evans".

Representative Paul L. Evans
House District 20