

Hello to the members of the committee,

My name is Joseph Ycaza and I am asking you to vote yes on HB 2835.

I am a student at University of Oregon and a current SNAP recipient. I live in a food desert and I don't drive. I have to take extra time to run errands. I have had to work to pay rent and utilities throughout college and I have regularly had to pass up academic opportunities because I had to work. It is always a hard decision but I am often in a place where it is my only option.

As a nontraditional student, I have spent a lot of time supporting myself that could have gone to studying or professional development. In addition to school work and classtime, I usually work about 15 hours a week. I don't believe I earn a living wage for how many hours I I'm able to work.

A Basic Needs Navigator at my campus would be a huge help in making sure I can worry less about food and rent and worry more about succeeding in school and gaining experience for a future career. Please support HB 2835.

Thanks for your time.

Joseph Ycaza