



## STATEMENT IN SUPPORT OF HB 2008

March 7th, 2023

Dear Chair Holvey, Vice Chairs Elmer and Sosa, and Members of the Committee:

United Food and Commercial Workers Local 555 urges your support of House Bill 2008, the Family Financial Protection Act of Oregon. By modernizing and expanding Oregon laws, the Act provides a realistic pathway for families to recover following unexpected financial hardship, rather than being pushed further into debt and poverty.

UFCW Local 555 is the largest private sector labor union in Oregon. Our members come from a number of industries, including grocery, retail, food processing, manufacturing, and healthcare. We are a diverse group of workers who take pride in acting as a strong collective voice for working people.

Oregonians are contending with rising inflation and increasing costs of living. These pressures are stretching budgets thin and forcing families to take on debt to cover essentials, including medical care, housing, and food costs. When financial hardship hits, Oregon's laws are too outdated and flawed to protect people.

House Bill 2008 creates necessary protections for our workers by protecting a living wage from wage seizure by raising the minimum protected wage amount to \$1,000 per week – just below the earnings threshold of what HUD considers a “low-income” family in Oregon. It also will protect our members ability to work by ensuring that a functioning car and work tools are shielded from seizure.

Through common-sense modernizations to Oregon's consumer protection and debt collection laws, HB 2008, The Family Financial Protection Act of Oregon, will provide much needed safeguards for the economic well-being of Oregonian consumers by protecting their ability to continue working, maintain housing, keep food on the table, and fight unfair debt proceedings.

We urge your support of HB 2008. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony and your service to Oregon communities

Sincerely,  
Fiona Yau-Luu  
UFCW 555

**UNITED FOOD & COMMERCIAL WORKERS LOCAL 555**

7095 SW Sandburg Street • PO Box 23555 Tigard, Oregon 97281-3555 • Office: 503-684-2822 • Fax: 503-620-3816 • [ufcw555.org](http://ufcw555.org)

