

Submitter: Mary Rooney

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Climate, Energy, and Environment

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3018

Dear Chair Lively, Vice Chairs Gamba and Levy, and members of the committee,

My name is Mary Rooney, and I live in Wilsonville. I am writing to express my strong support for House Bill 3018.

In Wilsonville, food scraps can be collected by our residential waste management company along with yard waste. Thanks to this service, my family reduced our garbage bin size for weekly pick up. House bill 3018, which applies to food processors and food establishments, is in line with this practice of keeping food waste out of landfills.

Methane is a greenhouse gas that is emitted with the breakdown of food. According to epa.gov, methane is 28 times more potent than carbon dioxide at trapping heat in the atmosphere. More than half of greenhouse gas emissions from landfills come from wasted food. This is the equivalent to the annual emissions of 15 coal-fired power plants. NPR reported in a July 2021 article "Your Trash is Emitting Methane in the Landfill. Here's Why it Matters for the Climate," that reducing methane could almost immediately curb climate change because it stays in the atmosphere for a short time. House bill 3018 would help to curb methane production in Oregon.

Please pass House Bill 3018 and have Oregon join the ranks of Washington and California that currently have state food waste laws.

Thank you for your consideration.

Mary Rooney