

February 18th, 2025

TO: House Climate, Energy, Environment, Committee

FROM: The Undersigned Businesses

RE: Support for HBB 3018

Chair Lively, Vice Chairs Gamba and Levy, and Members of the Committee,

We waste too much food in Oregon. [968 thousand tons](#) of food went uneaten in Oregon in 2022. That would fill enough garbage trucks to line up along I-5 from the Northern to the Southern borders of Oregon almost three times (1). [About one third](#) of that uneaten food ends up in landfills where it produces methane, a greenhouse gas that contributes to climate change. [The rest](#) is either never harvested or disposed of in other ways like in incinerators or sewers – only about 20% is composted. The emissions from wasted food in Oregon each year exceeds the annual emissions of [12 gas-fired power plants](#). Beyond that, it is simply a waste of resources and money.

To address food waste, we need to tackle the problem in households as well as businesses across the state. First, we need to standardize food labeling practices in Oregon so that labels clearly indicate either safety or quality. This will reduce consumer confusion, and in turn reduce the amount of food we toss. Second, large producers of food should be required to responsibly dispose of scraps and excess food using alternative methods like composting and donation.

Significantly reducing wasted food would have ripple effects for our environment and community. The average household could save up to [\\$1500](#) every year by reducing food waste and we could provide [millions](#) of meals to people. Not to mention, we could enrich our soil with high quality compost and significantly cut down on [greenhouse gas emissions](#).

We urge you to support HB 3018 to improve consumers' experiences, redirect valuable resources away from landfills, and feed millions of people.

Sincerely,

The Undersigned Businesses:

Hey Love

920 E Burnside St, Portland, OR 97214

AKADIPDX

1001 SE Division St, Portland, OR 97202

Le Pigeon

738 E Burnside St, Portland, OR 9721

Lilla PDX

960 SE Madison St, Portland, OR 97214

Pix Patisserie

2225 E Burnside St, Portland, OR 97214

Sebastiano's

8235 SE 13th Ave # 7, Portland, OR 97202

Kachka

960 SE 11th Ave Portland, OR 97214

Raven's Manor

235 SW 1st Ave, Portland, OR 97204

Pambiche

2811 NE Glisan St, Portland, OR 97232

(1) An [average garbage truck](#) carries roughly 30 thousand pounds which is equal to 15 tons. [968 thousand tons](#) of food waste divided by 15 tons per garbage truck would require the capacity of 64533 garbage trucks. An average garbage truck is [about 25 yards long](#). There are 1760 yards in a mile, which means 70 garbage trucks end to end would be equal to 1 mile. 64533 garbage trucks lined up would stretch 922 miles. I-5 in Oregon between the borders of California and Washington is [311 miles](#). 922 divided by 311 is 2.9.