

Committee: House Committee On Climate, Energy, and Environment
HB3018

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

My name is Raevyn Thompson and I am an Environmental and Climate Justice Organizer, located in Eugene Oregon who is in support of HB 3018, to reduce the enormous amount of food waste in Oregon.

This bill is very simple yet necessary, requiring standardized labels on food that clearly indicate quality and safety of foods. With three varying labels like 'best by', 'sell by', and 'use by', this continues to create confusion amongst consumers including myself! Many times, I have had to question and throw away food that potentially was still consumable. Adding to the 70% of discarded food Oregon could have eaten. In addition, the majority of food waste ends up in landfills where it produces methane, a greenhouse gas that contributes to climate change. Removing food waste from landfills could reduce emissions by 33% and help mitigate climate pollution.

In addition to simplifying and standardizing food labels, this bill emphasizes the need to provide composting options for the commercial section, continuing to help prevent the production of methane emissions and create a nutrient rich soil that can be applied as fertilizer, helping farmers, gardeners, and landscapers!

Again, I am urging you all to please support and pass HB3018.

Thank you for your time,

Raevyn Thompson
Beyond Toxics