

**DEB PATTERSON**  
**STATE SENATOR/SENADORA ESTATAL**  
**DISTRICT 10/DISTRITO 10**



**OREGON STATE SENATE/SENADO DEL ESTADO DE OREGON**

February 18, 2025

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

For the record, my name is Deb Patterson. I am the State Senator for District 10, which includes South Salem, West Salem, Monmouth, and Independence. I am writing today in strong support of HB 3018, which would reduce food waste in Oregon.

Oregon generates thousands of tons of food waste every year. Much of it ends up in landfills, where it breaks down to produce methane, a potent greenhouse gas that contributes to climate change. Landfills are the [third-largest source](#) of human-caused methane emissions in the United States.

As Oregon works to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, addressing methane caused by food waste is an important piece of this puzzle. HB 3018 aims to tackle this issue by standardizing food date labeling practices and sending more waste to compost rather than landfills. This not only prevents climate-causing methane emissions—it would also create high quality compost that can be used as fertilizer.

HB 3018 is an important step forward to mitigate waste and create a more sustainable and circular economy in Oregon. I ask for your support on this important bill.

Sincerely,

*Deb Patterson*