



Oregon Women’s Rights Coalition

HB 3435-School Meals for All-Support

Chair Neron, Vice-Chairs Dobson and McIntire, and members of the Committee.

The Oregon Women’s Rights Coalition has for decades advocated for children and family security including nutrition, health, education and economic security.

We support School Meals for All as it touches so many of those priorities.

HB 3435 would lead to a school environment that would decrease child hunger in the classroom, eliminate stigma associated with qualifying for reduced meals, eliminate school meal debt and help working families make ends meet.

According to Feeding America, food insecurity varies according to counties, but it is everywhere in Oregon. The following table shows statistics from 2022, the latest available on that site.

COUNTY	#POP FOOD INSECURE	FOOD INSECURE	#AT OR BELOW SNAP
Clackamas	43,470	10.3%	50%
Coos	10,520	16.2%	76%
Douglas	17,150	15.4%	75%
Jackson	30,620	13.8%	72%
Lane	55,660	14.6	74%
Multnomah	100,790	12.5%	61%
Washington	62,240	10.4%	51%
Yamhill	13,530	12.6%	60%
OREGON	554,550	13.1%	55%

Figures represent the food insecure population, the percentage of the county or state population, the percentage of the food insecure population at or below the SNAP level which is 200% of the Federal Poverty Level. That means that of those who are food insecure in Oregon, 45% do not qualify for SNAP.

School Meals for All should eventually address that gap.

Please support food meals for all for the sake of our children, our most important resource.

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