

Submitter: Meg Schenk  
On Behalf Of:  
Committee: House Committee On Education  
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3435  
FROM: Meg Schenk  
SUBJECT: Yes on HB 3435

Chair Neron, Vice-Chair McIntire, Vice-Chair Dobson, and Members of the Committee,

My name is Meg Schenk, and I am in strong support of House Bill 3435, School Meals for All, which would ensure that every Oregon kid has the food they need at school, regardless of where they live in the state or how much money their parents make.

Families across the state not having to wonder if their kids will be fed at school year after year would have enormous ripple effects throughout our community. One area that may be overlooked: kids don't have the energy for after-school activities if they can't rely on meals at school or skip free meals due to stigma. After-school activities like the arts, sports, and academic groups have no shortage of positive benefits on children's lives and their futures. I was privileged enough to count on meals my parents packed for me growing up. With choir in the morning and theatre or soccer in the evening, sometimes I would be at high school for 12+ hours. Not having reliable, stigma-free access to breakfast, lunch, and snacks that could carry me through those hours would have been devastating.

I urge you to pass this bill and support families across our state.

Thank you,

Meg Schenk