

Submitter: Kevin Ryan
On Behalf Of: Oregon Food Bank
Committee: Senate Committee On Human Services
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB611

At William Temple House, we believe that access to food is the right of every human and that no one should go hungry. We support this legislation, as it serves as a bulwark against hunger rising in the state, especially among our most vulnerable community members. Over the last year, we have seen a nearly 30% increase in visits to our food pantry, and we expect to see many more in the face of rising prices and dismantled supports. Many of our clients are immigrants or refugees, and, often, they experience hunger at a higher rate because of this designation, and we view increased access to food programs as a necessary step toward addressing this disparity. Thank you for your time.