

Submitter: Emily Embleton

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Human Services

Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB611

There are few things scarier than not knowing if you can afford to feed yourself and your family. With the rising cost of food and all other goods and services, it has never been harder for people to access good food (or any food at all for that matter). For the majority of my adult life, food was the first thing I financially deprioritized when dealing with a tight budget. I would rather have my bills paid and have gas in my car than be fed. But I shouldn't have ever had to make that decision. When I was eventually able to receive SNAP benefits, my whole life changed. Going to the grocery store and knowing I had the ability to purchase whatever I needed saved me anxiety and stress. I was able to buy healthier food for myself and my household, and even joined a CSA using DUFB. I had never been able to cultivate a healthy relationship with food like that until I got SNAP benefits. Access to SNAP benefits changes lives, it saves lives; it is preventative care. Please pass this legislation to ensure that all Oregonians, regardless of immigration status, are able to feed themselves and their families.