



Senate Committee on Human Services  
**RE: Support SB 611, Food for All Oregonians**

March 18, 2025

Chair Gelser Blouin, Vice-Chair Linthicum, and Members of the Committee,

My name is Isabela and I am the Policy and Communications Director at Next Up Action Fund. Our mission is to build political power with diverse young people to achieve a more just and equitable Oregon. We strongly support Food for All Oregonians, SB 611.

**All Oregonians deserve access to food. Immigration status shouldn't exclude anyone from being able to feed themselves or their family.**

Oregon is facing a hunger crisis, and it is getting worse. Today, 1 in 6 children in Oregon don't have enough to eat, and one-third more Oregonians face hunger than before the COVID-19 pandemic.

Food for All Oregonians, SB 611, will allow low-income Youth and Elder Oregonians to access the grocery benefits they need to thrive. These are Youth and Elders who are currently excluded from SNAP solely due to immigration status. Food for All will build on successful, community-driven navigator models to ensure trust and community safety.

By ensuring adequate nutrition for child development, food assistance is proven to improve children's academic performance, reduce the likelihood that a child will drop out of school, reduce school absenteeism, and create conditions for developing healthy social skills.

Please pass SB 611 out of committee.

Thank you,

Isabela Villarreal  
Policy and Communications Director