

Submitter: Kathleen Joy

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Human Services

Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB611

I have been an anti-hunger educator and advocate in Oregon for more than 35 years. I come today as an advocacy volunteer for Food for All Oregonians. In this time of great upheaval in federal funding for food banks and for school feeding programs. it is more important than ever to ensure that children and elders have access to affordable, culturally-appropriate food, regardless of their immigration status.

Last year saw a dramatic increase in the number of Oregon residents turning to local food pantries and to the Oregon Food Bank for food to supplement what they had the means to purchase at a market. The situation continues to darken as the state faces losses of both commodity foods and funding to support food distribution across the state. These changes put people without documents at even greater risk, and doubly impact the nutrition needs of children and elders.

Please join me in supporting Food for All Oregonians, Senate Bill 611. No one in this state should go to bed hungry.