

Submitter:

Nader Absood

On Behalf Of:

Committee:

Senate Committee On Human Services

Measure, Appointment or Topic:

SB611

My name is Nader Absood, I live in Portland, Oregon, and I am an elected Precinct Committee Person with the Multnomah Democratic Party, though I submit this testimony as a concerned citizen. I am writing in strong support of Senate Bill 611, Food For All Oregonians which would ensure Youth and Elderly Oregonians, regardless of immigration status, have access to the food they need to keep them and their families healthy. I believe that, in a civil society, no person should go hungry, and that we have a moral obligation to provide food assistance to those who need it, without regard for nationality, ethnicity, or immigration status. But beyond the ethical imperative to help feed those in need, it is well researched and documented that, in the context of programs such as the Supplemental Nutritional Assistance Program (SNAP), every \$1.00 spent on food assistance supports local jobs and businesses, promotes agriculture and farming, and increases the GDP by up to \$1.50. Expanding food assistance to more people isn't just the right thing to do, but also makes good economic sense.