

Submitter:	Lexie Houchins-Park
On Behalf Of:	Central Oregon Locavore
Committee:	Senate Committee On Human Services
Measure, Appointment or Topic:	SB611

I am the Outreach Coordinator for Central Oregon Locavore, a nonprofit supporting local food and farmers for entire community benefit. We accept SNAP/EBT with a 5% discount as well as participate as a grocer in the Double Up Food Bucks program. We also accept Oregon Farm Direct Vouchers. With these food access programs, I see and interact with firsthand both the public utilizing these programs as well as data regarding sales, demographics, etc. With growing food insecurity in our Central Oregon region, I firmly stand in support of this bill to offer improved access to ALL members of this community. Starving families and children is unacceptable no matter whose fault people think it is. I know for a fact there is food available to them, working directly with farmers and food producers in our region. What stands in the way of human beings being fed is an ideological principle that is counterproductive to the data and food available.