

March 26, 2025

Dear Members of the Senate Committee on Human Services,

I offer my strong support for SB 611, which establishes the Food for All Oregonians program. This bill is a crucial step toward ensuring that all residents of Oregon have access to essential nutrition assistance. No one in our country should be hungry.

By reducing food insecurity, we can expect to see improvements in public health, educational outcomes, and economic stability. Ensuring that all residents have access to adequate nutrition is not only a moral imperative but also a sound investment in the future of Oregon.

The proposed program aims to provide nutrition assistance to young adults under 25 and seniors over 55 who currently do not qualify for the federal Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) due to their immigration status. By addressing these gaps, SB 611 will help to reduce hunger for vulnerable populations who are at higher risk of food insecurity, and improve the overall health and well-being of our community.

The bill also mandates the Department of Human Services to conduct statewide outreach, education, and engagement efforts to maximize enrollment in the program. This proactive approach will ensure that all eligible residents are aware of and can access the benefits they need.

Sincerely,

Nancy Hiser
Linnton Neighborhood Association
Portland, OR