

Dear Oregon Legislators,

My name is Mwasi Mwangi. I was born and raised here in Oregon, a proud daughter of immigrants. Growing up, my family faced many hardships. We often struggled to make ends meet and experienced food insecurity firsthand. My parents worked hard but were denied access to food assistance programs because of their immigration status.

That struggle shaped me. It is why I became a community social worker—to serve families going through what mine went through. I now work with immigrant families and children every day, and I see the same pain and hunger in their eyes that I once knew.

Hunger affects everything: school performance, health, behavior, and future success. SB 611 is a chance to change that. It is a chance to make Oregon a place where all children, regardless of background, can grow up nourished and hopeful. Please pass SB 611 for the families I serve—and for the little girl I once was.