

Dear Oregon Legislators,

My name is Florence Nyirankunda, and I live in Gresham with my five children. I work hard to provide for my family, but we live in poverty, and access to food is never guaranteed. My income barely covers rent and utilities, leaving very little for groceries. There are weeks when I stretch every dollar and still come up short.

As an immigrant, I do not qualify for food assistance programs that many of my neighbors rely on. I often feel helpless, watching my children eat smaller portions and wishing I could do more. It is painful to explain to your child why there is no second helping or why dinner is skipped entirely.

SB 611 would change that. It would offer mothers like me the support we need to nourish our families and raise children who can thrive, not just survive. I urge you to pass this bill. No family should face hunger because of where they were born.

Sincerely,