

Submitter: Heather Hall  
On Behalf Of:  
Committee: Senate Committee On Human Services  
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB611

Dear Chair Senator Sara Gelser Blouin, Vice-Chair Senator Diane Linthicum, Member Senator Todd Nash, Member Senator Floyd Prozanski, and Member Senator Lisa Reynolds,

While I share concerns about individuals going hungry and that there is a growing issue of that in Oregon, I strongly oppose SB 611.

SB 611 pertains to individuals who have chosen to come to America, but not through the legal process. Therefore, we are seeing a natural cause to effect: 1) Oregon cannot afford to feed non-citizen individuals without overburdening tax-payers, 2) Individuals who chose not to come through the legal process needed to count the cost before coming here.

1. Are (legal) Oregon tax-payers responsible for the personal choices non-citizens have made? Why?
2. Are non-citizens truly "Oregonians" or "Immigrant Oregonians"? Legally, they are not.
3. Can non-citizens budget for the food they can afford, like citizens need to?
4. What about the many hard-working, tax-paying citizens who are struggling to feed their families and pay their bills because of continual tax-based, socialist programs?
5. Why aren't non-citizens considered uncompassionate toward Americans for expecting working, tax-paying citizens to pay for their food?
6. Why isn't Oregon showing real compassion toward non-citizens by explaining to them, in advance, that it won't be easy for them if they come here illegally?
7. The non-citizen parents have the responsibility to care and provide for their family's needs here just as much as they did from where they moved.

With all due respect, Oregon isn't a bank. We the People of Oregon are not a bank. Money doesn't grow on trees for tax-paying citizens any more than it does for the government. Those who can afford to help out non-citizens, should go for it voluntarily. But don't assume everyone can afford their income to be forced out of their hands, nor that they want it to be the case. Also, don't assume that we wouldn't want to care financially for our families first. We're already overtaxed and burdened by socialist programs. Stop treating us like cash cows.

I urge you to envision an Oregon of self-governed individuals who are not overburdened with taxes so we can care and provide for our families. Also, with the ability to self-govern more of our hard-earned income, we can have the flexibility to

voluntarily help others in need. The "Land of the Free" doesn't mean "the land of 'free' handouts." Handouts make individuals reliant upon the government vs. self-governed.

The Oregon lawmakers are law-makers for Oregonians (legal citizens), not the lawmakers of individuals of non-citizen status. The Oregon Governor is the governor of Oregon citizens, not of non-citizens. Laws need to reflect and honor the Principles of Liberty, like that of Private Property and Self-Government. Our Legislators, where is your compassion for your fellow countrymen?

I urge you to vote NO on SB 611 and honor the Principle of Private Property of hard-working tax-payers vs. socialism.

Respectfully,  
Heather Hall