

TO: House Committee On Revenue
FROM: Hannah Walters, Community Philanthropy Senior Developer -
Network & Gov't Relations
RE: HB 2732
DATE: April 3, 2025



Chair Nathanson, Vice-Chair Reschke, Vice-Chair Walters, and Members of the Committee,

For the record, my name is Hannah Walters, Senior Developer for Network and Government Relations at Oregon Food Bank. Thank you for the opportunity to speak today in support of HB 2732, which seeks to increase the crop donation tax credit for Oregon growers who donate their crops for charitable purposes.

Oregon Food Bank strongly supports HB 2732, which increases the crop donation tax credit from 15 percent to 25 percent of the wholesale price eligible as a tax credit for Oregon growers who donate their crops for charitable purposes. Currently, the 15 percent tax credit results in an estimated 7 pounds of donated produce for every \$1 of tax credit. If increased to 25 percent, we estimate that 10.75 pounds of produce could be donated for every \$1 of tax credit. While these figures are projections based on an assumed value of \$1.63 per pound of produce, the increase would expand access to fresh, local food for families experiencing hunger across Oregon. This change would strengthen our Network's ability to distribute nutritious food to more than 1,200-plus local agencies statewide. It would also provide much-needed relief for growers by offsetting some of the costs associated with donating surplus crops.

Hunger continues to rise in Oregon. Last year alone, we saw 2.5 million visits to 1,200-plus food assistance sites through our Network – a staggering 31% increase from the previous year. One in eight Oregonians and one in six children live in households that struggle to afford food.

While our Network sourced and distributed over 91 million meals – nearly 110 million pounds of food – food insecurity remains persistently high across our state. The need for fresh, nutritious food is greater than ever, and HB 2732 provides a simple, effective way to encourage food donations and support Oregon's agricultural economy. At a time when communities across our state are struggling, we urge your support of HB 2732 to help ensure every Oregonian has access to the food they need to thrive. Thank you for your time and consideration.

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