

TO: House Committee On Revenue
FROM: Hannah Walters, Community Philanthropy Senior Developer -
Network & Gov't Relations
RE: HB 2732: Follow-up on Federal Funding Impact
DATE: April 4, 2025



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

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of HB 2732 before the House Committee on Revenue. I appreciate the thoughtful discussion and wanted to follow up on Rep. Marsh's question regarding how federal funding freezes have impacted Oregon Food Bank and our ability to serve communities across the state.

Our work has become significantly more challenging due to recent federal policy changes, particularly those affecting food supply programs at the U.S Department of Agriculture. Since January, shifts in federal funding have resulted in:

- **The cancellation of 30 truckloads of food** that were scheduled to arrive in Oregon starting in April. In the second half of 2024, this accounted for 18% of the food distributed through our network. At this time, we have no indication that these deliveries will resume.
- **The termination of the Local Food for Schools and Child Care (LFSCC) program**, which has been critical in addressing childhood hunger and food insecurity. Oregon previously received \$2 million through this program, supporting local producers and schools in providing fresh, healthy food to children.
- **The scheduled end of the Local Purchasing Agreement (LFPA) on October 1, 2025**, which has provided over \$6 million in funding to 268 producers across 19 counties in Oregon. This initiative has not only ensured fresh, culturally relevant food for communities impacted by hunger but has also supported socially disadvantaged farmers, ranchers, and fishers.

The loss of this funding will leave significant gaps for both local producers and the communities they serve. These federal funding reductions are already straining our ability to meet the rising demand. With food insecurity persisting at high levels across Oregon, we remain committed to working alongside state and local leaders to ensure families have access to the nutritious food they need. Thank you again for your time and consideration. Please don't hesitate to reach out if you would like additional information or data on these impacts.

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