

TO: Senate Committee On Rules  
FROM: Hannah Walters, Community Philanthropy Senior Developer -  
Network & Gov't Relations  
RE: SB 602 - Task Force on Modernizing Nonprofit Grant Funding and  
Contracting Recommendations  
DATE: April 9, 2025



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Chair Jama, Vice-Chair Bonham, and Members of the Committee,

Oregon Food Bank joins with Oregon's nonprofits to ask you to support the recommendations of the state Task Force on Modernizing Grant Funding and Contracting by passing SB 602. The recommendations are designed to improve the process and outcomes of government grants and contracts by empowering nonprofits to deliver critical services efficiently and cost effectively to Oregonians.

Oregon Food Bank and more than 1,200 partner organizations statewide work daily to ensure that no one goes hungry. Like many of our partners, OFB holds contracts with the state. With the proposed updates to the state's systems outlined in SB 602, the entire ecosystem of community-based organizations will be able to support our communities better.

SB 602, if enacted, would improve and streamline how state grants and contracts are structured and administered. The bill would make important changes, including standardizing grant guidelines across state agencies, aligning relevant rules and statutes to comply with federal OMB guidelines, and allowing partial advance payments to help organizations pay their bills on time. Another important element of this bill would address the issue of suppressed wages for certain contracted positions, enabling nonprofit employers to attract high quality candidates and retain their staff.

These changes would benefit OFB, our network partners, and the communities we collectively support. We hope that we can count on your leadership in guiding the passage of SB 602. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

*Hannah Walters*

Hannah Walters  
Community Philanthropy Senior Developer: Network & Gov't Relations - Oregon Food Bank

Oregon Food Bank  
Headquarters /  
Metro Services  
7900 NE 33rd Drive  
Portland, OR 97211  
503-282-0555

Oregon Food Bank  
Washington County  
Services  
1870 NW 173rd Ave  
Beaverton, OR 97006  
503-439-6510

Oregon Food Bank  
Tillamook County  
Services  
PO Box 1344  
Tillamook, OR 97141  
503-842-3154

Oregon Food Bank  
Southeast Oregon  
Services  
773 S Oregon Street  
Ontario, OR 97914  
541-889-9206

Columbia Gorge  
Food Bank  
3610 Crates Way  
The Dalles, OR 97058  
541-370-2333



