

Rural Organizing Project (ROP)

PO Box 664

Cottage Grove, OR 97424

Phone: 503-543-8417

Email: office@rop.org

To the Members of the Senate Committee On Human Services,

I am writing on behalf of the Rural Organizing Project (ROP) to express our strong support for SB 611, the Food for All Oregonians bill. As an organization committed to advocating for rural communities, particularly our immigrant populations, we firmly believe this legislation is vital to fostering equity and food security for all Oregonians.

Over the years, we have witnessed the profound challenges immigrant families face in accessing nutritious food. Many community members struggle with food insecurity, making difficult choices between essential needs. SB 611 offers a solution that addresses immediate concerns and empowers our immigrant community by ensuring equitable access to food resources. By expanding food assistance programs, this bill will directly benefit those who have historically been marginalized, creating a more inclusive and just system.

Moreover, supporting our immigrant communities through initiatives like SB 611 is not only a moral imperative but also an economic one. By improving access to nutritious food, we're investing in the health and well-being of our workforce, which is crucial for the overall vitality of our rural economies. A healthy community is productive; when our residents have access to food, they can thrive, contribute, and support local businesses.

We know SB 611 will significantly improve rural economies and the well-being of all Oregonians. This bill represents a commitment to justice, equity, and the basic human right to food. We urge you to support SB 611 and advocate for a future where food insecurity is eradicated, and every Oregonian can fully participate in our state's prosperity.

Thank you for your time and consideration. We look forward to seeing this bill advance for our communities and the state of Oregon as a whole.

Sincerely,



Martha Ortega

Director of the Immigrant Center on the Gorge
Rural Organizing Project (ROP)