

Submitter: Timothy Herrera
On Behalf Of: SB 611
Committee: Joint Committee On Ways and Means
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB5006

Good Evening Esteemed Members of the Ways and Means Committee,

My name is Timothy Herrera. I'm here to advocate for Senate Bill 611, Food For All Oregonians, because I've seen firsthand the devastating impact of food insecurity in our communities.

There are over 60,000 people that would otherwise be eligible SNAP that are currently excluded from receiving assistance because of where they were born. SB611 will cover young children 0-6, and that will help close a significant gap of people who are excluded from food assistance.

As a community leader and University of Oregon faculty member, I know many families in the community and students whose children will benefit.

Food For All isn't just about food; it's about dignity. It means children can focus in school and that they have the nutrients to support healthy growth, and families can have resources to plan for the future. We're all vulnerable to hardship. A safety net that includes these children will build stronger and more resilient communities.

SB 611 is an investment in Oregon's future. It will not be the finish line, but it will be the start to a future where no one, regardless of where they were born, worries about their next meal. Your 'yes' vote on SB 611 is an investment in our state's health, stability, and future.

Thank you,