

Submitter: Tanya Schaefer
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Joint Committee On Ways and Means Subcommittee On Capital Construction
Measure, Appointment or SB5701
Topic:

I am writing in SUPPORT of Sen. Suzanne Weber's request for funds for site improvements to build a new distribution facility for North County Food Bank (NCFB) in Nehalem. We've owned a home in neighboring Wheeler for over 15 years, and know that the food bank is a critical part of the safety net for our Tillamook County neighbors facing food insecurity. The food bank's continued presence is critical to the North Coast, and is a shining example of neighbors helping neighbors.

Having been required to move from the decommissioned hospital building, the food bank and its partners worked hard to find a site to meet its requirements, including being out of the tsunami zone. The project is now *shovel ready*!

Your committee's allocation of funds to bring critical infrastructure elements, including water, sewer, and electricity, to the site will provide about 25% of the funds necessary for the project. NCFB has already secured donations and grants for the remaining 75%. Furthermore, the site has room for expansion. This is a wise and reasonable investment of state dollars that will provide returns for decades to come for the residents of Tillamook County.

Thank you.