

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: Fiscal statement issued

Action:	Without Recommendation as to Passage and Be Referred to the Committee on Ways and Means by prior reference
Vote:	7 - 0 - 1
Yeas:	Frederick, Greenlick, Harker, Parrish, Thompson, Gilliam, Tomei
Nays:	0
Exc.:	Weidner
Prepared By:	Jennifer Kellar, Administrator
Meeting Dates:	3/23

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Appropriates unspecified sum from the General Fund to the Housing and Community Services Department for food programs partnering with the Oregon Food Bank. Declares emergency, effective July 1, 2011.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Provisions of measure

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: No amendment.

BACKGROUND: The Housing and Community Services Department supports a variety of nutritional and educational programs that are operated through Oregon Food Banks' statewide network of 21 regional food banks, to include: Commodity Supplemental Food Program (CSFP); The Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP); and the Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR).

The CSFP is a healthy dietary program that offers free nutritious foods to supplement the daily diet of children and seniors. Each month, a variety of high quality nutritious food is distributed and can include: evaporated milk, egg mix, meat, peanut butter, rice, cereal, beans and a variety of fruits, juices and vegetables. CSFP is open to Oregon residents who meet federal income guidelines.

The TEFAP provides United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) commodities to needy persons through emergency food box and congregate meal sites. Oregon Housing and Community Services are responsible for administering the TEFAP and contracts with the Oregon Food Bank to deliver the services. The Oregon Food Bank coordinates TEFAP statewide through twenty regional food banks distributing commodities to more than 800 hunger relief agencies. Each state sets eligibility criteria for determining what households are to receive food for home consumption. Income standards may, at the state's discretion, be met through participation in other existing federal, state or local food, health or welfare programs for which eligibility is based on income. Commodities for home consumption are available to low-income individuals and families in need of food assistance. A low-income household is defined as a household with an income that does not exceed 185 percent of the federal poverty guideline.

Additionally, FDPIR distributes a month's supply of nutritious food to any income-eligible household residing within the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation boundary, and an income-eligible household who has a member of a federally recognized tribe living within a 10-mile radius of the boundary can receive food.